

# **AND WE ARE ALL MORTAL**

**New Evidence and Analysis in the  
John F. Kennedy Assassination**

**by George Michael Evica**



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## PREFACE

*And We Are All Mortal* consists of two parts: the first deals with the hard evidence of a conspiracy and cover-up in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy - a micro-analysis; the second half reviews the contexts of the assassination - a macro-analysis. For both ease of reading and economy, all supporting documentation and citations appear in the End Notes which are keyed to the text's page numbers (and then to each page's paragraphs).

The Introduction reviews the events of November 22nd-24th, 1963, and the official "case" against Lee Harvey Oswald. Chapter 1 analyzes the story of the finding of a rifle in the Depository. Chapters 2 and 3 establish why the weapon was first called a "7.65 Mauser bolt action rifle." Chapters 3 and 4 prove that F.B.I. testimony on the alleged assassin's rifle was incorrect, if not deliberately misleading. Five missing rifle reports, all of them linked to the F.B.I., suggest that the rifle originally found could not be traced. The rifle examined by the F.B.I., however, was traced to Klein's, and from Klein's to Dallas. The contradiction strongly suggests a rifle substitution to implicate Oswald. New evidence is presented in Chapter 5 indicating the Italian Armed Forces Intelligence Service questioned the identity of the alleged assassin's rifle - and that the C.I.A. intercepted the secret report, and then suppressed the Italian analysis for thirteen years. Chapter 6 examines Oswald's evident innocence. Chapter 7 establishes through an analysis of the famous Zapruder film that no one could have assassinated the president with one Mannlicher-Carcano and three rounds fired from the Depository. Chapter 8 presents new F.B.I. lab evidence proving the so-called "magic bullet" is a fraud - evidence suppressed for twelve years. Chapter 9 establishes that Kennedy was hit by at least one soft-nosed, fragmenting bullet, and that he suffered wounds from weapon rounds fired from at least two directions. Chapter 10 reviews part of the history of Alpha 66, the anti-Castro/ Cuban-exile organization, its leaders, and their known association with a second "Oswald" - and the organization's possible complicity in the Kennedy assassination. Chapter 11 links Cuban-exile assassination attempts against Fidel Castro with the C.I.A. (and the Alpha 66 officer who worked with the C.I.A. to kill Castro) and a proposed plot to frame Oswald for the Kennedy killing. Chapter 12 reviews the career of a high American intelligence officer and his possible role in the framing of Oswald in what might have been a faked Mexico City visit to the Soviet and Cuban embassies. Chapter 13 presents new evidence on Jack Ruby's early role as a police and intelligence informant from 1938 through 1963, and reviews the evidence establishing Ruby as a Hoffa-Lansky gangster with a special interest in Cuban affairs. Chapter 14 reviews the first Syndicate-Intelligence assassination attempt against Castro, and presents evidence to suggest that the only surviving member of that operation may have helped reputed Syndicate chief Meyer Lansky gain control of organized crime by staging the Appalachian "Mafia" meeting.

Chapters 15 through 21 link the Kennedy assassination with anti-Castro assassination attempts, Watergate, the disappearance of Jimmy Hoffa, and seventeen deaths since 1970, thirteen of them violent.

*And We Are All Mortal* reviews and analyzes these recently-released documents:

1. the November 28th, 1963, Italian Armed Forces Intelligence report on the alleged assassin's rifle, and the C.I.A. dispatch which proves that the C.I.A. intercepted the Italian report and then suppressed both;
2. the F.B.I. spectrographic lab reports, invalidating the so-called "single-bullet" theory, suppressed for eleven years;
3. the Treasury Department's CD 853 on a Cuban-exile terrorist group and its association with a second "Oswald";
4. the F.B.I. "Criminal Informant" reports on Jack Ruby in 1959, suppressed for twelve years;
5. the Hoover memorandum to his aides and staff, November 28th, 1963, reviewing his briefing of President Johnson, strongly suggesting Hoover hinted to the president the Dallas police were involved in the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald.

I thank the University of Hartford library staff for its assistance; Professor Harald Sandstrom for his scholarship and insight (and the students of ISP 223 and 225 whom we both taught in the Kennedy assassination courses in 1976 and 1977); John Richters, III, for his help and humor; Patti Rakauskas for her hard work and patience; the staff of MATECH, INC., for its magic; Larry Montgomery for his support and sustenance of this book; English Department Chairperson Robert Logan, the University Sabbatical Committee, Charles Condon, and Provost David Komisar; and Arts and Sciences Dean Frank Chiarenza (who read the manuscript and helped untangle some of its unnecessary complications).

I thank all those who worked with the Connecticut Citizens Commission of Inquiry in getting the word out, especially Susan Fowler and Kim Magid; the citizens of Connecticut for their interest and active support; the media people of Connecticut for their help in pursuing the truth, especially the staffs of Channel 3 and Pat Sheehan, Channel 8 and Bob Norman, and Channel 30; scores of radio stations, including WPLR, WTIC, WDRC, WRCH, WKND, and WPOP; Ivor Hugh for his confidence and friendship; Bob Baldwin and the *West Hartford News*; and the two-dozen newspapers in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New York which helped raise the New England area's consciousness.

I thank The University of Hartford campus radio station, WWUH, for carrying my broadcast, *Assassination Journal*, and the University's student newspaper for its coverage and courage (it has existed under several names, including the *Callboard*, *Liberated Press*, and *Informer*).

I thank former deputy sheriff, justice of the peace, and judge of the lower court of Coconino County, Flagstaff, Arizona, James F. Brierley, for his valuable commentary on CE 399.

I thank my parents for their pride and loving interest. I thank broadcaster Brian Dow for his courage and love. I thank my daughter for her patience and understanding; and I especially thank my wife and best friend, who never lost faith.

This book is, therefore, dedicated to

**Alycia Brierley Evica**

## INTRODUCTION

It was November 22nd, 1976.

Frank Sturgis had just finished being interviewed in an hour of close questioning by a roomful of newspeople at the University of Hartford; earlier, in a private interview, John Richters and I had questioned Sturgis for over two hours. Now, as we moved toward the stage at the University of Hartford's Student Center, where Professor Harald Sandstrom, Richters, and I would question Sturgis for another two hours before an over-capacity audience, an observer remarked to Sturgis: "They sure asked you some hard questions."

Sturgis paused for a moment. Turning to me, he fixed me with a dark-eyed, expressionless stare. A blunt, dangerous-looking index finger shot out and almost touched my chest: "No...he's the one who asks the hard questions."

I did not take it as a compliment.

### **The Conspiracy, the Frame-up, the Cover-up**

Dallas, November 22nd, 1963, 12:31, Central Standard Time, Dealey Plaza. Riding in the open presidential limousine on the way to the Dallas Trade Mart to make a triumphant speech of reconciliation, President John F. Kennedy, his wife, Governor John Connally and Mrs. Connally were fired upon, and the president was struck by several rifle rounds. Governor Connally was wounded seriously at the same time, and a bystander was struck in the cheek by a bullet fragment or curbing chip from a missed shot. Less than one half-hour later, the president was declared legally dead at Parkland Memorial Hospital where, for a time, the Texas Governor remained in critical condition, but eventually recovered.

The motorcade had proceeded west on Main St. toward the overpass "above" Commerce, Main, and Elm Streets - Dealey Plaza - where the lead car turned hard right onto Houston St. off Main, which meant a hard turn left onto Elm. According to the first Secret Service reports radioed from the motorcade, there was a "flurry of shots" - bursts of gunfire from an "automatic weapon" - and both Kennedy and Connally were hit. The motorcade sped off for Parkland Memorial Hospital.

According to the Warren Report, the Dallas police announced they had discovered a rifle in the Texas School Book Depository Building, later reported to be an Italian Mannlicher-Carcano 6.5-mm, clip-fed, bolt-action rifle. But the initial Dallas police or Sheriff's Office statement was that a 7.65-mm. Mauser bolt-action rifle had been found - by Deputy Constable Seymour Weitzman, who gave a detailed description of the rifle in a signed affidavit (not included in the Warren Report). Weitzman's affidavit appeared in the Hearings material published in support of the Commission's single-volume summary.

The Dallas police said that a Mannlicher-Carcano could be traced to Lee Harvey Oswald, whom they had arrested initially for allegedly killing police officer J.D. Tippit; Oswald was taken into custody at the Texas Theater, where an unusual number of law enforcement officers were on the scene. The Dallas police maintained that, at the time, they were not arresting Oswald for the assassination - only for killing officer Tippit.

On November 23rd, the Dallas police rifle story was altered, and, according to the police, a Mannlicher-Carcano was brought, dismantled, by Lee Harvey Oswald, into the Depository on November 22nd, 1963, in a long paper bag, also allegedly traceable to Oswald. But neither the bag nor the rifle carried Oswald's prints when examined officially by the F.B.I.; and the bag showed no characteristic folds, no oil, nor any other evidence of having held any rifle.

An alleged sniper's nest was discovered on the sixth floor of the Depository. In one photographic version of the "nest," the boxes were stacked from window-edge to window-edge without a break. But a series of *official* photographs of that so-called "sniper's nest" - CE 724, CE 733, Studebaker Exhibit D, CE 715, and CE 1301 - contradicted the "official" box arrangement and contradicted each other: obviously there could not be six different "official" box arrangements for a single "nest." Which was the "only" arrangement? Who might have re-arranged the boxes before each photograph? Was there ever a real "sniper's nest"?

According to the Warren Commission, two photos were found of Oswald holding, according to the police (and later the Warren Commission), the Mannlicher-Carcano allegedly used in the assassination. The pictures were widely circulated and widely published after the assassination. But to the Warren Commission, three national magazines - including *Life* - admitted doctoring at least the rifle in the picture so that the weapon looked more like a Mannlicher-Carcano. *Life*, for example, painted in details of the scope.

Still, even with this after-the-fact manipulation of the evidence, the Warren Commission, and, before it, the Dallas police, the Sheriff's office, District Attorney's office, and the F.B.I., all asserted the case against Lee Harvey Oswald was overwhelming - had Lee Harvey Oswald lived. The alleged assassin of the president of the United States was murdered while in the custody of the Dallas police by Jack Ruby, a Dallas police informant, on November 24th, 1963, in the basement of the Dallas Police Department building.

The Warren Commission had problems during its investigation of the Kennedy assassination, not the least of which were the official F.B.I. reports submitted to the Commission. The F.B.I. concluded that there were three shots, three hits, seven non-fatal wounds inflicted on Kennedy and Connally, and one fatal wound suffered by the president, from one location, with one man responsible. According to the official F.B.I. reports: (1) the first bullet hit Kennedy in the back; (2) the second bullet hit Connally, causing a back, chest, right wrist, and left thigh wound - the original F.B.I. "single-bullet" theory; and (3) the third bullet hit Kennedy in the head, a bone fragment ripping through his throat. Disagreeing with the official findings of the Warren Commission and in agreement with the F.B.I., Governor Connally has always maintained he was hit by a later, separate bullet, different from the bullet or bullets that initially struck Kennedy. For the Warren Commission, the F.B.I. conclusions (and Governor's Connally's first-hand experiences) posed some of its most serious difficulties. The Commission ultimately decided to reject the F.B.I.'s argument, refuting its own investigative force in a crucial area.

What prevented the Warren Commission from accepting the F.B.I. report of three shots, three hits, eight wounds? The unaccounted-for wound suffered by James Tague, a bystander located too far away to be hit by a fragment from the three accepted shots: the Tague wounding must have been from a missed shot. But if the F.B.I. analysis of three shots and three hits from one location in the Depository was correct, then this missed shot would be a *fourth* shot - from a second rifle in a different location - and therefore proof of conspiracy. But conspiracy was unacceptable to the Commission. Long-withheld internal memoranda prove that Commission counsel were determined to have the evidence fit the theory of a lone assassin rather than begin with the evidence and accept its logical conclusion: two riflemen, possibly more, and therefore a plot to kill John F. Kennedy.

The Warren Commission seems to have asked the F.B.I. to take its one-bullet Connally theory and extend it to Kennedy. Could the bullet alleged to have caused all of Connally's wounds be responsible for all of Kennedy's non-fatal wounds too? The F.B.I. attempted the reconstruction, allegedly re-creating a bullet path following a trajectory which roughly fit the angle of entry into Kennedy's back, striking at the point the F.B.I. and Bethesda autopsy doctors had placed it - six inches below the collar line - and then striking exactly at the point Parkland doctors placed the Connally back wound. According to the F.B.I., the bullet could have hit Kennedy, traversed Kennedy's body, hit Connally in the back, exited his chest, struck his right wrist, and continued into his left thigh. But the F.B.I. trajectory would have had the single bullet exiting Kennedy's chest. No such wound was observed at either hospital. The F.B.I. re-creation was dumped.



The president *had been wounded in the throat, however. Every doctor and every nurse at Parkland Memorial Hospital who observed the president's neck wound described it as a small, round, neat hole of entry. What if a bullet had exited there? The single-bullet theory was born.*

Though such a theory was not necessary to the Commission's case (except that in its absence conspiracy was certain), the *Report* argued it *could* have happened. A single bullet could have caused Kennedy's back of the neck wound (somehow moved up six inches from its observed location), continued through his neck (at a rather acute angle to the horizontal plane of the limousine despite the fact the round was allegedly fired from a sixth-floor window at an original angle of about 45 degrees) and, striking no bones, exited from the front of the neck through what *had been an entry wound, turned down, leaving particles of lead throughout Kennedy's neck, but keeping its copper alloy jacket intact, and, losing no weight, either paused for 1.3 seconds before striking Connally or so lightly and swiftly struck him that he did not respond for 1.3 seconds, then plunged through the thorax of the governor, shattering a rib, yet losing no weight and, with its copper alloy jacket still intact, its diabolical velocity still undiminished and possessing an uncanny direction-changing ability, exited through a gaping wound in the governor's chest, turned right, smashing through the governor's right wrist and breaking one of the hardest bones in the human body, leaving lead particles behind, yet losing no weight, its copper alloy jacket still intact, exited the wrist, turned down and left, and imbedded itself in the femur bone of the governor's left thigh, where, exhausted, it would drop up and out, its copper alloy jacket still intact and without weight loss, leaving lead fragments in the governor's thigh, but with one last great effort, tucking itself under the mattress of a stretcher used in the emergency red blanket treatment of a small black boy at Parkland Memorial Hospital, from which, helpfully, it would heave itself out when it was needed as evidence.*

Though fairly pleased with my own single-sentence effort to trace the single-bullet's path from muzzle to mattress, I admit I cannot match the combined lyrical efforts that a whole generation of Kennedy writers and lecturers have lavished on the fantasy of CE 399.

In a sense, given all the constraints within which it was operating, the Warren Commission *had* to accept both CE 399 and the single-bullet theory. According to the F.B.I.'s ballistic analysis, the Parkland Memorial bullet had been fired from the Commission's rifle. To discount CE 399 would have been to invite a theory of conspiracy. Whoever planted it knew that.

The president, according to every medical person at Parkland Memorial Hospital who observed his throat wound and reported on it, was hit above the necktie knot and below the Adam's apple. Dr. Carrico, in particular, observed the president before he was undressed, and he located the wound exactly at that point: above the necktie, below the voice box. Dr. Malcom Perry performed a tracheotomy, a *small*, transverse (horizontal) incision across the neat, round bullet hole, in an attempt to save the president's life. Yet the Bethesda autopsy doctors described a ragged, lacerated, larger excision in the front of the throat. Dr. Perry seemed to be disturbed when it was suggested that he had made such an excision. No competent doctor would excise flesh in making a tracheotomy, especially when that excision would obliterate evidence of a gun-shot wound which could be crucial in determining the caliber, velocity, and trajectory of the offending bullet. Dr. Perry also denied damaging the pleural cavity when making the incision, leaving that internal wound (and others) without explanation.

The F.B.I. and the Warren Commission argued that holes in the president's shirt and a notch in the president's tie were evidence of an exiting bullet. But no *traces of metal* were found on either the collar or the tie - ballistically impossible. No bullet nicked the tie or tore through the shirt, because the bullet, remember, went in *above* the tie. And those were not bullet holes in the shirt. Available evidence establishes that a nurse cut away the tie, and, beginning to cut the shirt away at the collar, felt Kennedy's flesh beneath her scalpel. She pulled the sharp instrument out of the slits she had made, cut away the shirt from below (after unbuttoning it), and then pulled it off. The nick and the slits were *scalpel-made*, not bullet-made. And medical evidence, suppressed for almost twelve years now, told us where the tracheotomy was made and, therefore, where the entry wound occurred: at the president's *second tracheal ring*.

Eye-witness testimony, including the observations of Secret Service men and F.B.I. agents, placed the wound in the back exactly where the mute testimony of the president's jacket and shirt showed us the wound was: six inches below the collar line. In that same recently-released medical evidence, we find the signed and verified autopsy sheet, withheld for twelve years - and the wound in the back is exactly where it had been observed. The autopsy sheet and its wound locations were verified by Admiral George Gregory Burkley, personal physician to the president, who was in the motorcade, at Parkland Memorial Hospital, and at Bethesda Naval Hospital. Burkley filled out and signed John F. Kennedy's official Naval death certificate on November 23rd, 1963; he verified the location of the wounds and signed the Kennedy autopsy sheet at Bethesda on November 24th. That death certificate revealed the back wound to be, in the Admiral's own words, at the president's "third thoracic vertebra." The neck has seven cervical vertebrae, and

this wound was described as *three thoracic vertebrae lower than the neck itself*. A wound in the *back*, exactly where the autopsy sheet placed it; exactly where the coat and the shirt placed it.

No bullet fired from the easternmost window of the Texas School Book Depository building could have struck at the third thoracic vertebra in the back and, at a downward angle, exited the second tracheal ring of the throat. The single-bullet theory always was, and continues to be, a perverse connivance.

Lee Harvey Oswald maintained he was innocent to his death; every piece of evidence supports his claim. Oswald was framed for two murders - then was himself murdered.

Conspiracy and miscarriage of justice in the death of the president lie heavy on the conscience of this nation, but someone has been able to relieve us of our rightful burden for fourteen years. Who gained in the assassination of the president and in the cover-up following his murder?

Who conspired to kill John Fitzgerald Kennedy on November 22nd, 1963?



## PART ONE: A MAN WITH THE RIFLE

MARINA was...questioned concerning a statement made by PAVEL GOLOVACHEV in a letter to her on September 15, 1962. GOLOVACHEV wrote this letter from Minsk, Russia, and commented on Pogodin's play, "A Man With The Rifle."

.....

...World War I followed by the revolution in Russia made a man with a rifle a feared person. In the play, an old woman is explaining to her audience how...she had been in the forest picking mushrooms and had suddenly noticed a man with the rifle. She became afraid. However, the man with the rifle did not harm her but, instead, helped her pick the mushrooms. So she told her audience that "now we do not have to fear a man with the rifle." 23 H (CE 1842) 520



## **CHAPTER 1**

### **THE RIFLE (I): 6.5**

On February 1st, 1963, in a full-page advertisement appearing in the *American Rifleman* magazine, Klein's Sporting Goods of Chicago offered for sale a "6.5 Italian Carbine" only 36 inches long and weighing 5 1/2 lbs. Without a Klein's-mounted rifle scope, the weapon was identified as "C20-T1196," specially priced at \$12.88. With a "Brand New Good Quality 4X Scope - 3/4" diameter," the rifle was identified as "C20-T750" and "as illustrated" for "\$19.95." It is not clear whether "as illustrated" refers to the rifle with scope or to the scope alone. The accompanying picture showed a Mannlicher-Carcano rifle with a rather short barrel.

William Waldman, then Klein's vice-president, verified that the "Klein's catalogue number [was] the number for the described rifle with premounted sight" - C20-T750 - and that the scope for an Italian 6.5 mm. carbine, serial number "C 2766," was so premounted and not separately shipped. The Warren Commission stated that the alleged assassin's rifle, a 6.5 mm. Mannlicher-Carcano Italian carbine, was ordered on a coupon from the February issue of *American Rifleman*; that Klein's advertisement, inexcusably, does not appear either in the *Warren Report* or in the Commission's twenty-six Hearings volumes. The Commission asserted that an "A. Hidell" from Dallas, Texas, ordered one "C20-T750" with the Klein's February coupon, but accepted another magazine's advertisement (from November, 1963) in evidence.

#### **Commission Exhibit 139**

The Warren Commission maintained that it was this Klein's advertised rifle, shipped to Dallas, Texas, with which Lee Harvey Oswald committed the murder of John Fitzgerald Kennedy on November 22nd, 1963. When the alleged assassin's

weapon was introduced as evidence, the rifle was designated Commission Exhibit number 139 (it was, however, the one-hundred and thirty-third item to be introduced at the Commission's Hearings, since six exhibit numbers were left blank between 1 and 139).

The chain of evidence for many of the key items in the Commission's case against the dead Lee Harvey Oswald was broken and defective at several points, including the evidential chain for the Commission's rifle. After showing Marina Oswald two photographs, allegedly of her husband "with a rifle and pistol," and receiving an assurance from her that she took both pictures in the Neely St. backyard during diaper-hanging, Commission counsel moved to establish a rifle as Commission evidence. Mr. John M. Thorne, listed as representing Marina Oswald, spoke:

Exhibit No. 136 purports to be a clipping from a newspaper. It is a clipping of an advertisement, a mail coupon.

Mrs. Oswald: I don't know what that is.

Mr. Rankin: Do you recognize the handwriting on it?

Mrs. Oswald: Lee's handwriting.

Mr. Rankin: I offer in evidence Exhibit 135.

The Chairman: It will be admitted.

According to the Hearings record, the "document referred to was marked...135, and received in evidence."

Rankin: I call the Commission's attention to the fact that this is the coupon under which it appears the rifle was ordered, showing an enclosed \$10 notation - "check for \$29.95, A.G. Hidell, age 28, post office box 2915, Dallas, Texas."

Several problems were ignored at this point in the Commission's proceedings. Rankin, it seems, had introduced evidence (CE 136, actually 135) that an "A.G. Hidell" (as the coupon so indicated) ordered a rifle, according to Rankin, from Seaport Arms (according to the exhibit he held in his hand), on a coupon indicating the purchaser's desire to buy a Smith and Wesson .38 revolver - which was then shipped as a 6.5-mm. rifle to an "A. Hidell" by Klein's. The first "link" in the Commission's chain of rifle evidence was defective, though obviously it was only a careless lapse on the part of the Chief Counsel of the Warren Commission: the wrong Commission Exhibit number for the wrong purchaser's name and the wrong coupon advertisement for the wrong weapon.



Moments later, Mr. Thorne (Marina's attorney) said "Exhibit 139," and Mrs. Oswald, who must have been observing the Commission's rifle while either she, Thorne, or Rankin held it, said, "This is the fateful rifle of Lee Oswald." Rankin then asked whether the rifle's scope was the same as the one she observed attached to Lee's alleged rifle, and, receiving a "Yes" from Marina, Rankin said, "I offer in evidence Exhibit 139"; and it was marked and "received in evidence." It was approximately 2:30 p.m., Thursday afternoon, February 6th, 1964; the "President's Commission" had officially convened on Monday, February 3rd, 1964 (exclusive of Executive Sessions), and had been hearing its first witness for three days, both mornings and afternoons. The first Marina Oswald rifle story had been heard the afternoon of the first session, Monday, February 3rd, 1964, but the Commission's rifle was not presented to Marina at that time. After three days, the "fateful rifle" was introduced as Commission evidence, without establishing that the rifle in the Commission's possession had been ordered by, delivered to, or had been in the possession of Lee Harvey Oswald prior to 12:31 p.m. C.S.T., November 22nd, 1963, in Dallas, Texas; without establishing that the rifle in the Commission's custody had in any way been involved in the Kennedy murder or Connally wounding; without establishing who possessed the Commission's rifle from the time it was allegedly discovered in the Texas School Book Depository until it appeared as Commission evidence in the Hearing room. The only "evidence" presented was, in fact, irrelevant and incorrectly described; the only "testimony" given was by Lee Harvey Oswald's widow, Marina Oswald. Thus did a rifle in the possession of the Warren Commission on February 6th, 1964, become "CE 139."

CE 139 is illustrated in the sixteenth volume of Hearings evidence; on page 512, a rifle with scope and sling is shown, below which appear the words "Commission Exhibit 139." Inside the picture is a 12-inch ruler. Since the bolt is pulled back, the open bolt area *should* show the light surface underneath the rifle; it does not. Either the bolt area has a separate dark piece of material behind it, or the bolt area has been artificially darkened on the negative or on the print. The published exhibit picture is quite dark, allowing very little detail to be observed. Still, it is there, a photograph allegedly of Commission Exhibit 139. The next time the CE 139 rifle was referred to in the Hearings, attorney Mark Lane was being heard, but only a newspaper photograph of a rifle was entered into evidence; the Commission did not show Lane "CE 139," an Italian Mannlicher-Carcano bolt-action rifle.

### **What Is A "Mannlicher-Carcano?"**

At the Royal Arms factory in Terni, Italy, the basic Italian military field piece was designed and modified by Lieutenant Colonel Salvatore Carcano. A senior

technician at Terni, Carcano adapted the design for his "Carcano" from the Austrian Steyer rifle, and appropriated other rifle features in his weapon's development - in 1891, the Mannlicher clip-loader, for example - which converted Carcano's single-shot rifle into a clip-fed, six-round repeater. The Carcano will not fire adequately without its clip - if at all.

The Mannlicher-Carcano was known informally as *il novantuno* (the "91"), so characterized for the first year of its manufacture at Terni, and was the chief Italian field weapon through World War 1, in the Ethiopian campaign of 1935-36, and must have been remembered with fondness by Generalissimo Francisco Franco: in the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939), 100,000 Italian troops carrying Carcanos fought for Franco against the Spanish Republic.

In 1938, Italy transformed the 91. The 91/38 (or simply the Model 38) was modified to fire a larger caliber round, the 7.35. But Italy was unable to manufacture enough Model 38s to substitute them for the old 91s at the front and produce simultaneously an adequate number of new 38s. The old 6.5-mm. round became the Italian standard again, and many of the model 38s already manufactured were re-bored or re-barreled. But not all.

In its identification of the Commission's rifle, CE 139, the Warren Report was uncommonly accurate, possibly because the Commission received much of its information from S.I.F.A.R. - the Italian Armed Forces Intelligence Service. As the Report transmitted, the 91 series was made up of 6.5 mm. rifles, but the original 38 model was a 7.35 mm. Encountering difficulties, the Italians "began producing many of these rifles as 6.5-millimeter caliber rifles, known as the 6.5-millimeter Model 91/38." Warren Commission Exhibit 139 (CE 139) is one of those 91/38s, originally a 7.35 mm. re-barreled to 6.5 mm. In 1941, another version of the Model 91 6.5 mm. Carcano was produced: the 91's sight system was modified, and its barrel was shortened, providing easier handling. It did lose, however, velocity, and it dispersed its fire over a greater area. It was called the "41," after the new year.

But in 1940, at the Royal Arms Works in Terni, Italy, a Model 91/38 6.5 mm. Carcano rifle was manufactured "stamped with its own numbers and markings," allegedly making it unique: "Cal. 6.5," "RE TERNI," a crown proof mark, "TNI," "PG," "SD," "ROCCA," "1940," and "C 2766."

Ultimately, a Mannlicher-Carcano, allegedly a model 91/38 6.5-mm. carbine with a serial number "C 2766," arrived at Klein's in Chicago as a second-hand weapon to be available for mail-order sale in America. This Mannlicher-Carcano arrived at Klein's in a large shipment of used guns on February 21st, 1963, much later than the placement of Klein's ad in the *American Rifleman*, and therefore this rifle may or may not have been illustrated in that advertisement. On February 22nd, 1963, workers in the receiving department controlled by Klein's general operating manager Mitchell Scibor opened the carton and allegedly assigned control numbers to the rifles, listing them with their serial numbers as the weapons were un-packed. Klein's control number VC 836 allegedly showed (from February 22nd on) a corresponding serial number, C 2766.

On March 13th, 1963, Klein's maintained (according to its microfilm records - the originals were routinely destroyed) it received a U.S. Postal Money order (2,202,130,463) from Dallas, Texas, purchased and air-mailed on March 12th. Enclosed with the money order was a February *American Rifleman* coupon on which print script had been entered, requesting one "C20-T750," the Mannlicher-Carcano 6.5-mm. rifle with its advertised four-power scope. The money order totaled \$21.45 (\$19.95 plus postage and handling fees). In testimony to the Commission, Klein's official Waldman re-affirmed that

Our catalog No. C20-T750, which was the number indicated on the coupon prepared by A. Hidell, designates a rifle with scope attached. And we would have so shipped it unless the customer specifically specified that he did not wish to have it attached. There is nothing in our records to indicate that there was any request made by the customer, and therefore we would have every reason to believe that it was shipped as a rifle with scope mounted.

The Klein's records upon which Waldman's statement was based were, remember, on microfilm.

The 91s had been acquired by Klein's without scopes; therefore, the weapons had to be drilled and mounted with the scopes which Klein's had advertised. Rifle VC 836/C 2766 had been mounted by Klein's gunsmith William Sharp "with a telescopic sight, manufactured in Japan, and obtained by Klein's from Ordnance Optics, Incorporated, Hollywood, California." Martin Retting of Ordnance Optics confirmed that Klein's was the only company mounting his Japanese-made sight on the 6.5-mm. Mannlicher-Carcano.

The Dallas money order for \$21.45 was deposited on March 15th with the First National Bank of Chicago as part of a larger Klein's bank account deposit. On March 20th, 1963, Klein's rifle VC 836/C 2766 was shipped in a five-foot cardboard container - marked "Fragile Handle With Care" - to an "A. Hidell," P.O. Box 2915, Dallas, Texas.

### **Which Rifle Was Delivered, If Any? And To Whom?**

Lee Harvey Oswald rented Dallas Post Office Box 2915 from October 9th, 1962 through May 14th, 1963. But according to the F.B.I., he did not authorize an "A. Hidell" (or anyone else) to receive mail at that address, information transmitted to the Warren Commission in a Bureau report dated June 3rd, 1964. But the Warren Commission ignored this F.B.I. finding, opting for ignorance:

It is not known whether the application...listed "A. Hidell" as...entitled to receive mail.... In accordance with postal regulations, [the records were] ...thrown away after the box was closed on May 14th, 1963.

Postal Inspector Harry D. Holmes of Dallas was the Commission's source for part of this misinformation. According to the *Warren Report*,

...when a package is received for a certain box, a notice is placed in that box regardless of whether that name...is listed on the application as a person entitled to receive mail.... The person having access to the box then takes the notice to the window and is given the package. Ordinarily...identification is not requested.

Earlier, however, Inspector Holmes was quoted in the *New York Times* of November 30th, 1963, as stating that "no person other than Oswald was authorized to receive mail" at his post office box. We would assume that Holmes was speaking with some authority: that (1) he knew the regulations, and/or (2) he had access to the Oswald post office box application. But Holmes was the Commission's source for its statement that Federal regulations dictate the destruction of post-office box records. Checking those same regulations, we find Holmes to have been in error:

Section 846.53h, of the Postal Manual, provides that the [record]...identifying persons other than the applicant authorized to receive mail...must be retained for two years after the box is closed.

Holmes spoke with no authority either in the *New York Times* or in his testimony for the Warren Commission. Unless, of course, as of November 30th, 1963, Oswald's postal records had not been destroyed, and Holmes had access to them, but by the time he was a Commission witness, those records no longer existed, having been "thrown away" in contravention of the existing Federal regulations. As Sylvia Meagher commented, the Warren Commission seems to have made no move to establish whether (1) any employee at the Dallas main post office remembered handling the Klein's parcel; (2) any employee at the main office remembered surrendering the Klein's parcel to anyone presenting the post-office box notice; (3) any record of the notice of the delivery of the parcel existed at the main post office. Especially since Postal Inspector Holmes was also wrong about the lack of difficulty with which Oswald would have taken delivery of the Klein's package addressed to "A. Hidell." The Warren Commission presented the testimony only of a post-office substation inspector, Holmes, rather than taking testimony from employees at Dallas's main post office, where Oswald had his box, and where the Postal Manual might have been honored.

Holmes was one of the many all-purpose Commission witnesses to testify in a number of areas: the Commission called him to testify on post office regulations, as an eye-witness to the assassination, and as one of the privileged interrogators of Oswald after the shooting. He was incorrect as to postal regulations; he was incorrect as to the elapsed time between shots; and he claimed to have observed the railroad tracks on the overpass and behind the Depository *with binoculars* at the time of the assassination while in a building two blocks from the site. He reported he saw nothing; he hoped, he said, he "would see somebody running across the railroad tracks...." Holmes' contradictory statements to the *Times* and to the Commission on the Oswald post-office box should be weighed against his record.

No proof that the Klein's Carcano addressed to "A. Hidell" was delivered to Oswald was obtained from any postal employee at the main post office in Dallas. As Mark Lane commented, Federal regulations which are inexactly cited and which are never made a part of the Commission's public record, either in its *Report* or in its twenty-six volumes of Hearings, tend to make us doubtful of the thoroughness of the Warren Commission. The Commission did not attempt to get evidence independent of its only witness in this area, Post Office Inspector Harry Holmes, who, it seems, was also an F.B.I. informant.

### **Did Oswald Ever Possess Any Rifle?**

Marina Oswald was the Commission's sole witness cited for the *Report's* conclusions that Oswald possessed a rifle before the alleged attack on General Edwin Walker and that the alleged rifle was moved from Dallas to New Orleans and

from New Orleans to Irving, Texas. The Commission's own records help to establish that no piece of the Oswalds' baggage or any other container used in moving the Oswalds was large enough to hold the Commission's disassembled rifle. Despite counsel Albert Jenner's persistent pressure on Ruth Paine and his obvious intent during her questioning to show the purported murder weapon could have been transported in the Oswalds' baggage, Paine's testimony leads us to the conclusion that no rifle was in Lee Harvey Oswald's possession from Dallas to New Orleans to Irving, Texas.

The Commission attempted to prove that a rifle was stored in the Paine's garage prior to the assassination: it failed. Marina Oswald testified to the Commission that she had entered the Paine's cluttered garage to look for parts to a baby crib; lifting a corner of a folded blanket on the floor, she said she saw part of a riflestock (in another version of this incident Marina decided it was the *barrel* she had seen). But Marina's testimony was not corroborated; she could not distinguish either between kinds of rifles or between kinds of pieces (rifles and shot-guns, for example; Commissioner Warren assured Marina that his wife couldn't either, which was not exactly the point: the Chief Justice hadn't been accused of killing a president). When shown a rifle on November 22nd, at about 9:00 p.m., she was unable to identify it:

Marina Oswald advised an Agent of this Bureau on November 22, 1963, that she had been shown a rifle at the Dallas Police Department.... She advised that she was unable to identify it positively as the same rifle kept in the garage at [the] Paine residence....

Three months after the assassination, Marina's memory improved so that on February 6th, 1964, when shown what the Commission alleged to be the same rifle, she said, "This is the fateful rifle of Lee Oswald." But Sunday, September 6th, 1964, with both Peter Gregory (an important member of Dallas/Ft. Worth White Russian community) and Leon I. Gopadze (a Secret Service agent involved early in the interrogations of Marina Oswald) acting as interpreters and translators for Marina before the Commission, the following odd exchange occurred:

Senator Russell:	Did you testify that you thought this [C139] was Lee's rifle that was shown to you?
Marina (Gregory translation):	No - I'm sorry. As far as she knows about the arms, the rifle which was shown to her

Little need be said about Jeanne de Mohrenschildt's "support" of Marina's absurd contradictions. According to the Report, the de Mohrenschildts visited the Oswalds on April 13th, 1963. "Mrs. de Mohrenschildt then told her husband, in the presence of the Oswalds, that there was a rifle in the closet." According to George de Mohrenschildt, Marina had said, "That crazy idiot is target shooting all the time." When Albert Jenner questioned Mrs. de Mohrenschildt, the rifle-possession-and-practice testimony lapsed into the poetically bizarre:

She [Marina] said, "Oh, he just loves to shoot." I said, "Where on earth does he shoot...?" when they lived in a little house. "Oh [Marina is supposed to have answered], he goes in the park and shoots leaves and things like that."

.....

Mr. Jenner: Didn't you think it was strange to have someone say he is going in a public park and shooting leaves?

Mrs. de Mohrenschildt: But he was taking the baby out. He goes with her, and... [shooting leaves with his rifle] was his amusement.

Mr. Jenner: Didn't you think it was strange that a man would be walking around a public park in Dallas with a high-powered rifle..., shooting leaves?

Mrs. de Mohrenschildt: *I didn't know it was a high-powered rifle. I had no idea. I don't even know right now. (italics added)*

### **Did Oswald Take Any Rifle To The Depository?**

The Warren Commission did establish (or seemed to have established) that a folded blanket had once rested on the floor of Ruth and Michael Paine's garage (at least Marina and the Paines thought so, and the police allegedly found such a blanket). The Commission was unable to place a rifle in that blanket except for Marina's testimony about seeing the stock (or the barrel) of a rifle when she peeked - but then Marina was an incredible witness and admittedly could not recognize a rifle. Mrs. Paine testified she did not "see" the blanket in her crowded garage any earlier than October 7th, 1963. Ruth Paine also testified that the rifle she allegedly

saw in Oswald's possession had a sling unlike the one on the CE 139 rifle. Michael Paine tried to help; he testified that on some unspecified date before November 22nd, 1963, he remembered "moving about this package [in his garage] which, let's say, was a rifle, anyway it was a package wrapped in a blanket." But Paine didn't help Marina's credibility much:

I have read...that Marina looked in the end of this [garage] package and saw the butt end of a rifle. Now I didn't remember that it was something easy to look into like that. *I thought it was well wrapped up.* (italics added)

The Warren Commission seemed to have discovered an ill-identified "rifle" (which could not be placed in the Oswalds' possession during their various moves) in an alleged package/blanket allegedly in the Paine garage - but not before October 7th, 1963.

The Commission did establish that Lee Harvey Oswald was present at the Paine's residence, Thursday evening, November 21st, but could not place him in the Paine garage. It also could not establish whether he left the Paine residence on Friday morning, November 22nd, with a paper bag, a rifle, or *anything* in his hands. To suggest that Oswald might have taken a rifle in a paper bag, the Commission took testimony from four witnesses. The Commission's intention was to suggest that Oswald *might* have (1) stolen the paper-bag materials from the Depository; (2) constructed the paper gun-case at the Paine house on Thursday night; (3) dismantled the rifle (thereby saving himself only a few inches in length but increasing the time necessary to prepare for the assassination when he would be forced to re-assemble the rifle); (4) placed the rifle in his home-made bag; (5) transported it to the Depository, and (6) carried it to the sixth floor of that building. The Commission was unable to establish as fact any one of these six sequential speculations.

Had the Commission been able to establish Oswald's possession of the CE 139 Mannlicher-Carcano through the evening of November 21st, or the fact of that possession any time on the 22nd, its "reconstruction" of possibilities could have been accepted as circumstantial evidence for the *transportation* of the Mannlicher-Carcano to and into the Depository on November 22nd. In fact, the Commission neither established Oswald's possession of *any* rifle through November 22nd nor his transportation of *any* rifle on November 22nd. Its four paper bag/rifle transportation witnesses offered abundant material for the counter argument that



Lee Harvey Oswald did not transport the rifle to or into the building, could not have borrowed the paper bag materials, and did not take those materials to the Paine house. Two of those witnesses testified on March 11th, 1964 - the only two alleged to have seen Oswald with his "bulky" package - that it was too short for even a disassembled Carcano. The difference in lengths given was significant: the CE 139 rifle (dismantled, according to F.B.I. agent Frazier), 35 inches; Oswald's alleged package, about 28 inches.

The Warren Commission was unable to place any rifle in Oswald's possession and was even unable to argue persuasively that Oswald might have transported a package containing a rifle to (or into) the Depository.

### **Did Oswald Possess A Rifle Inside The Depository?**

Was Lee Harvey Oswald in possession of a rifle or a short or long package inside the Depository on November 22nd, 1963? No testimony was elicited, either by the Commission or by its investigators and staff members, in answer to that question; it was not, it seems, asked. The Commission tried neither to establish how Oswald got any rifle from the Depository's first floor to the sixth floor nor to determine whether it was possible to transport a weapon. The Commission could have asked the Depository's first-floor workers, but it seems to have avoided asking them any questions about Oswald's possible rifle-carrying trip. Why?

The Warren Commission was unable to prove that Lee Harvey Oswald (1) took delivery of a rifle; (2) possessed a rifle; (3) practiced with a rifle; (4) transported a rifle to the Depository; and (5) carried a rifle to the Depository's sixth floor.

And, of course, it was unable to prove that Lee Harvey Oswald ever fired a rifle on November 22nd, 1963.



## **CHAPTER 2**

### **THE RIFLE (II): 7.65**

#### **Which Rifle Was Found At The Depository?**

On the evening of November 22nd, 1963, a "Combined Wire Services" story out of Dallas, Texas, received wide national circulation, appearing on the front pages of many "Wall Street" and "Sports Final" editions. That wire service story contained the following paragraph:

The Dallas sheriff's department said a rifle had been found in a staircase on the fifth floor of a building near the scene of the assassination. It was a 7.65 mauser. The German-made Army rifle had a telescopic sight with one shell left in the chamber. Three spent shells were found nearby.

Dallas television station KBOX broadcast the same news item (with minor changes) the afternoon of November 22nd, including the following identical words and phrases: (1) "found in a staircase, (2) "on the fifth floor," (3) "a 7.65 Mauser" (the printed wire service story spelled it with a lower-case "m"), (4) "German-made Army rifle," (5) "telescopic sight," (6) "one shell...in the chamber," and (7) "Three spent shells were found nearby." Through the afternoon, evening, and night of November 22nd, 1963, in Dallas and in the national press, the report was made that a "rifle," allegedly found "in a staircase on the fifth floor," presumably the Depository, had been found by Dallas Sheriff's officers and had been identified as a 7.65 mm. "Mauser." The word "Mauser," of course, identifies both a type of rifle: a bolt-action rifle using a Mauser or Mauser-like bolt, and a German Army 7.65 mm. Mauser rifle (with a "Mauser" bolt). No correction or denial of that widely-distributed rifle description was issued by any Dallas or Federal law enforcement agency through the many hours of November 22nd following the assassination at 12:31 (C.S.T.). No record exists of anyone calling KBOX-TV, Dallas, or any other station or newspaper, correcting its wire-service copy. District Attorney Henry Wade named the rifle allegedly found as a "Mauser" in a Dallas press conference seen on NBC television just after midnight (12:30 a.m.) the morning of Saturday, November 23rd. The *Warren Report* did not contradict the November 22nd media announcements, but it gave the sixth rather than the fifth floor. At 1:22 p.m., it reported, two Sheriff's men "found a bolt-action rifle...between two rows of boxes in the northwest corner near the staircase on the sixth floor."

According to Deputy Constable Seymour Weitzman, he and Eugene Boone together discovered a rifle. While Boone peered over the tops of the stacked boxes, Weitzman looked for a weapon at floor-level and under the boxes. "I would say [we found it] simultaneously....It was covered with boxes. It was well protected...[so that] eight or nine of us [must have] stumbled over that gun a couple of times [without discovering it]...."

Three years later, former Warren Commission Assistant Counsel Arlen Specter would be asked about the "alleged" rifle, and in an effort to suggest the rifle was not defective when fired, Specter pointed out that the rifle was found "near the stairs," which Specter asserted led "down and out" of the Texas School Book Depository. The former Commission Assistant Counsel speculated that Oswald carried the rifle with him in case he "encountered" someone (perhaps to shoot it out with the F.B.I. or the Dallas police with the one live round still in the chamber?), and, nearing the stairs (which, Specter suggested, he intended to use as an escape route out of the building), the alleged assassin gave the rifle a "pretty good toss" which could have damaged the scope. No evidence was presented by Arlen Specter, of course, in support of his suggestion that the alleged assassin meant to exit the building by using the stairs and the Warren Commission never asserted it was Oswald's intention to do so. Specter's entire statement is a speculative argument not only void of evidence - it contradicts the Commission's very own presentation in its Report and in its supporting documentation.

Not only is there no evidence for Specter's suggestion; Specter's "pretty good toss" is directly contradicted by the sworn testimony of several Dallas law officers. Available official photographs also disprove Specter's "reasonable" hypothesis. The best photograph of the rifle allegedly found "partially hidden by book cartons near the stairs at the back of the sixth floor" is a Dallas police exhibit taken from above. Tantalizingly, this photo shows a good deal of wooden stock and butt, the front sight is indistinct, and the rifle's bolt, trigger, scope, and sling area are covered by a box. As one researcher had commented, the hidden rifle resembles a Mannlicher-Carcano, but then it "resembles" a number of other rifles, since nearly all of its key features are obscured. Several police photographs were taken at the time of the discovery, but they are nearly identical, and all were taken from overhead, with boxes hiding the weapon's identity. Another version of the Dallas police picture (with the whole rifle less distinct) gives us a very good idea of its placement; commenting on this photo, Harold Weisberg observed that the rifle did not seem to have been casually abandoned but rather carefully lodged under two touching boxes.

One of the men who reported the finding of a rifle, allegedly on the Depository's sixth floor, was summoned to Washington to appear before the Commission - Deputy Sheriff Eugene Boone. Constable Seymour Weitzman, the second man, was not. But Weitzman did describe the rifle in a signed affidavit on November 23rd and to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He was also deposed by the Warren Commission staff on April 1st, 1964, in Dallas. When shown unidentified photos, presumably copies of the police pictures of the rifle *in situ*, Weitzman said the rifle he discovered "was more hidden than there [in the photo he was being shown]." (*italics added*) Without such careful placement, the rifle would have been easily visible from the northwest stairway, Weitzman asserted. Like Weitzman, both Luke Mooney and Eugene Boone felt the "official" pictures did not illustrate adequately how completely hidden the rifle was:

Ball:                    Do you see the picture which is 514? Does it look like anything like that?

Mooney:                ...there was more cartons around it than that...of course these may have been disturbed at a later date.

.....

...there [were] some more boxes here...

Boone:                 ...I caught a glimpse of the rifle, stuffed down between two rows of boxes with another box or so pulled over the top of it. And I hollered that the rifle was here.

The Weitzman-Boone rifle was so effectively hidden that the space was "just wide enough to accommodate that rifle and hold it in...position," Officer Day observed. With law officers crawling over, around, and between the stacked boxes, the rifle would have had to be quite well hidden to avoid earlier detection.

Seymour Weitzman described the rifle he and Boone allegedly found as a "7.65 Mauser" in his "subscribed and sworn to" affidavit of November 23rd, a "7.65 Mauser bolt action [rifle]...with a "4/18 scope." Not a "German Mauser," not a "7.65 Mauser...German-made Army rifle," but "a 7.65 Mauser bolt action" rifle. That is, Weitzman, with a degree in engineering, a former sporting goods businessman and an experienced police officer at least "fairly familiar" with rifles, identified the weapon he found by its *bolt action*: a *Mauser bolt-action* rifle.

Nowhere is it recorded at the time of the discovery of the rifle or immediately after (in his reports to the Dallas Sheriff's office or to the F.B.I.) that Weitzman said "It's a German Mauser" as CBS in 1967 so suggested without evidence. Weitzman's affidavit description and his (presumably) later, more detailed, rifle identification to the F.B.I. contradict absolutely the argument that he only "glimpsed" or "glanced at" the rifle and, as a result of the momentary glimpse or glance, misidentified the rifle.

Dallas law authorities reported to the local and national news media that a "7.65 Mauser" had been found. That public identification was based on the initial identification of Weitzman and Boone, who were joined immediately by Deputy Sheriff Luke Mooney, who also saw the rifle. Dallas police Captain J. Will Fritz and Lieutenant J.C. Day (who was photographed by various photographers carrying a rifle out of the Depository on November 22nd), joined the three Sheriff's officers. Day held the weapon and inspected it; Fritz handled it, allegedly ejecting a "live" round. Weitzman, Boone, and Fritz all identified the rifle as a "7.65 Mauser" in Day's presence. When Boone, with Weitzman, one of the two alleged weapon discoverers, was asked by Commission Counsel Joseph Ball to identify anyone who referred to the rifle as a "Mauser," Boone replied, "I did, sir...I thought it was a 7.65 Mauser." (italics added) Boone's November 22nd report stated: "...I saw the rifle [which] appeared to be a 7.65 mm. Mauser..." "Who [else] referred to it as a Mauser that day?" Ball asked. And Boone responded:

I believe Captain Fritz. He had knelt down there to look at it, and before he removed it, not knowing what it was [that is, not knowing what the rifle would later be called], he said that is what it looks like. ...he said it looks like a 7.65 Mauser. (italics added)

Before they found out Oswald was supposed to own a 6.5 mm. Italian rifle, they thought the discovered rifle was a "7.65 Mauser."

Deputy Constable Weitzman was never called before the Commission as a witness; Dallas Police Chief Curry was. When Commissioner McCloy suggested to Curry that "there was no police report that it was a 7.65 rifle," Curry, Rankin, and the Warren Commissioners went "off the record." One may well suspect that the Dallas Sheriff's office materials were then referred to, and that the following (on-the-record) Rankin-Curry exchange was agreed to, avoiding the Boone-Weitzman "7.65 Mauser":

Rankin: Chief Curry [one can almost hear Rankin add "for the record"], do you know of any police records of your police department that showed that this weapon that was purportedly involved...was a Mauser rifle?

Curry: No, sir; not to my knowledge. (*italics added*)

Nothing about a "7.65" or "German" rifle - only "Mauser."

According to Seymour Weitzman, he and another officer found a bolt-action rifle on the Depository's sixth floor. Almost immediately, three other police officers joined them, including Luke Mooney, who saw the rifle. When Weitzman was deposed in Dallas, he was never shown the alleged assassin's rifle; he was never asked the simple question: "Is this weapon, CE 139, the same weapon you discovered or observed discovered on the sixth floor of the Depository on November 22nd, 1963?" Why wasn't he? When Deputy Sheriff Mooney testified in Washington, he was never shown the Commission's rifle. He was never asked that same, simple question. Why not? Nor was Mooney asked about the rifle identification - a "7.65 Mauser bolt action rifle" - allegedly made in his presence by Weitzman, Boone, and Fritz. Why not? The CE 139 rifle was, presumably, in or near the Commission's Hearing room, as Mark Lane has noted, since Boone testified just after Mooney, and Boone was shown the Commission's rifle. But Deputy Sheriff Boone, co-finder (with Weitzman) of the alleged assassin's rifle, was unable to testify positively that CE 139 was the same rifle he reportedly found on November 22nd:

Ball: I show you a rifle which is Commission Exhibit 139. Can you tell us whether or not that looks like the rifle you saw on the floor that day?

Boone: It looks like the same rifle. *I have no way of being positive.*

At one point in Boone's rifle testimony, there seemed to be a calculated attempt to eliminate or at least minimize Weitzman's co-discovery. Later, when Weitzman was deposed in Dallas, the discrepancy between his and Boone's testimony was not alluded to:

Boone: ...I hollered that the rifle was here.

Ball: What happened then?

Boone: Some of the other officers came over to look at it.

(Boone then told Ball about Fritz and Day inspecting the rifle)

Ball:                Were you alone at that time? [obviously not;  
                         but Boone seemed to know exactly what Ball  
                         was referring to]

Boone:            There was an Officer Weitzman, I believe.  
                         He is a deputy constable.

At least three experienced police officers saw the alleged assassin's weapon and identified it as a 7.65 Mauser bolt action rifle. Two of the officers, Boone and Weitzman, presented written reports describing the weapon as a 7.65 Mauser. Boone submitted two reports. Weitzman submitted a signed and sworn-to affidavit on November 23rd describing the weapon as a "7.65 Mauser bolt action." When Ball heard Weitzman's testimony in Dallas, the Commission counsel established that Weitzman had "referred to the rifle as a 7.65 Mauser bolt action." Ball had just days before heard both Boone and Mooney in Washington testify about the 6th-floor rifle. It was five months after the assassination, and the "glimpse" and "glance" routine was in progress; but Weitzman did affirm he had made such a reference: "In a glance, that's what it looked like." And "...I said that. I thought it was one." Ball also elicited from the deputy constable his sporting goods experience and familiarity with weapons. Later in Weitzman's testimony came his recapitulation of the rifle description he gave to the F.B.I. (never refuted or denied by the Agency): a (1) "Mauser bolt action" rifle, (2) "gun-metal color," (3) "blue metal," (4) "the rear portion of the bolt...visibly worn" (Ball had asked him about this last phrase, ending his question with "...is that worn?," as if he were reading from a document, and Weitzman replied, That's right"), (5) the wooden portion "...not a mahogany brown but dark oak brown," and (6) "rough wood." From Weitzman's November 23rd affidavit we can add a seventh detail: "...a thick leather brownish-black sling...."

Weitzman seemed to have trouble with the rifle's scope. In his November 23rd affidavit, he described it as a "4/18 scope." According to his testimony to Ball, he told the F.B.I. it was a "2.5 scope." He commented to Ball: "I believe I said [to the F.B.I.] it was a Weaver [a good rifle scope] but it wasn't; it turned out to be anything but a Weaver, but that was at a glance [the 'glimpse' and 'glance' again]." Later in his Dallas testimony, when he was asked about the scope ("Was it of Japanese manufacture?"), Weitzman avoided answering directly, saying: "I believe it was a 2.5 Weaver at the time I looked at it. ...it just looked like a 2.5 but it turned out to be a Japanese scope...." We can only sympathize with Seymour Weitzman's confusion.



On June 25th, 1967, CBS interviewed Weitzman on the perplexing rifle story. Again Weitzman used the now-recurring phrase "at a glance," and said "I looked at it, and it looked like a Mauser which I said it was." Then Weitzman denied his own educated perception: "But I said the wrong one because... *I saw the Mauser action....*" In other words, just after the assassination, Weitzman recognized a *Mauser-type bolt action* rifle, and so identified it, elaborating on his identification with seven specific and distinctive details. But four years after the assassination, Weitzman used, for the first publicly-recorded time, the word "German": "...I don't know - it just came out...it's a German Mauser which it wasn't." None of the three officers, in fact, used the word "German" in describing the discovered rifle.

George O'Toole, computer expert, former chief of the C.I.A.'s Problem Analysis Branch, and a Psychological Stress Evaluator analyst as well as an assassination researcher, subjected Weitzman's CBS interview to a PSE analysis. O'Toole found hard stress - nearly maximum stress - throughout the crucial passage, which included "I said the wrong one," "at a glance," "it's a German Mauser, which it wasn't," "It's an Italian-type gun," "I was mistaken," and "it was an honest mistake." O'Toole commented (1) that Weitzman was under extreme duress - an ordinary listener could *hear* it - and exhibited a high level of anxiety (according to O'Toole's PSE read-out) while being interviewed about the rifle "mistake"; (2) that Weitzman in 1967 seemed to have become uncertain as to *what* kind of rifle he was supposed to have discovered in 1963; and (3) that Weitzman's truthfulness could not be measured: that is, no statement could be made on his truthfulness, because of the consistent PSE reading of hard stress through Weitzman's whole interview.

On July 2nd, 1964, testifying before the Warren Commission, Mark Lane pointed out that the rifle he had been allowed to inspect was clearly imprinted with "Made Italy" and "Cal. 6.5." But he added fuel to the fire of confusion by testifying on that day, and earlier on March 4th, 1964, about the Weitzman affidavit. He correctly repeated the Weitzman identification as "a 7.65 Mauser," but unfortunately neglected to point out that Weitzman used "Mauser" as a modifier (not a noun) for the phrase "bolt action" - just as Weitzman used the word "Mauser" four years later, in his CBS television appearance, as a modifier for the noun "action": "I saw the Mauser action" - that is, the Mauser-type bolt action. Lane identified one of the possible sources of the nationality later associated with the rifle and communicated to the local and national media:

Now the prosecuting attorney...took exactly the same position, and for hours insisted that the rifle discovered...was a German Mauser, *adding the nationality.* (italics added)

If true, an excellent point (I have not been able to find a direct quotation attributable to the District Attorney in which he uses the word "German" on November 22nd or 23rd): but not adequately emphasized - and the word "German" appeared three times on one page of Lane's own testimony, inadvertently helping to strengthen the link between "German" and "Mauser" in subsequent rifle discussions. On July 2nd, 1964, Lane himself made the same error he seemed to have been arguing against five months earlier: "...and then the next day [Weitzman] draft[s] an affidavit stating that in fact it was a German Mauser, 7.65 millimeters." In fact, Weitzman swore to no such thing in his affidavit; he swore he discovered "...a rifle [which] was a 7.65 Mauser bolt action...."

The Warren Commission cited Weitzman as "...the original source of [what it called] the speculation [rather than report and affidavit] that the rifle was a Mauser...." But Weitzman never said the discovered rifle was a Mauser; District Attorney Wade did say "a Mauser, I believe," early Saturday morning, November 23rd. The Commission characterized it as "a Mauser," then confused the issue with the following phrase, "a German bolt-action rifle, as if "Mauser" meant the latter in Weitzman's description. The deputy constable was clearly indicating the kind of bolt action. The Commission added that the "Mauser" was "similar in appearance to the [Commission's?] Mannlicher-Carcano." But when a German Mauser and a Mannlicher-Carcano are viewed together, even an untrained eye can perceive at least some of the fifteen major differences between the two types of rifles, rather than their "superficial resemblance" - unless we agree that both are, after all, rifles.

Captain Will Fritz, under oath, denied to the Commission he identified the rifle as a "7.65 Mauser," but Fritz left himself two openings through which he squeezed without Commission counsel Ball catching him.

No, sir; I did not [say it was a "7.65 Mauser"]. *If I did [say] the Mauser part, I won't be too positive about [not saying] Mauser because I am not too sure about Mauser rifles myself. But I certainly am sure that I never did give anyone any different caliber than the one that shows on the cartridges. (italics added)*

As Sylvia Meagher observed, Fritz seems to have admitted identifying the rifle he observed and handled in the presence of Weitzman, Boone, Mooney, and Day as a Mauser. As to his caliber identification: possibly he recalled being cited in the *New York Times* on November 23rd as saying the rifle, allegedly recovered at the Depository, was "of an unusual, undetermined caliber." Fritz emphasized to Ball:

*looked like the one he had.*

Gregory (in

English):

Yes; that's right.

Senator Russell:

That's all I asked her. That's just exactly what I asked her.

Gregory (in

English):

Yes; that's right. (italics added)

Most crucially, Marina's testimony on the alleged assassination weapon was *coached, altered, or corroborated* by individuals associated with Jack Ruby, the Great Southwest Corporation, George de Mohrenschildt (who admitted consulting with a Dallas C.I.A. agent concerning Oswald), and two of de Mohrenschildt's associates (the co-founders of a C.I.A.-subsidized Russian Orthodox church in Dallas). The F.B.I. reported that a Marina Oswald interview had taken place on February 18th, 1964, in the office of attorney William A. McKenzie, who had been recently associated with the law firm representing both the Great Southwest Corporation (owned by the Murchisons' lawyers, the Bedford Wynne family, and the Rockefellers) and George de Mohrenschildt. The F.B.I. reported that

Marina said to her knowledge Oswald had only one rifle and that rifle is the one he maintained in the Paine garage.

But Mrs. Declan Ford (another member of the White Russian emigre' group) admitted:

...Mr. McKenzie didn't know what they would talk about but he advised her, "They will ask you if there were two guns, *you tell them there was one gun that was used....*" (italics added)

Peter Dale Scott found this involvement of the intelligence-oriented Russian emigre' group in the transmission of Marina's testimony ominous enough to suggest a House Select Committee investigation, pointing out that Peter Gregory altered Marina's testimony on the rifle and supplied other details which were corroborated by Marina's second interpreter - who, with Gregory, helped found a Agency-supported Orthodox parish. Details of Mariana's coached and altered testimony were echoed in statements given the F.B.I. by Charles Camplen and James F. Daley, employees of the Great Southwest Corporation.

Willima A. McKenzie, in whose office the February 18, 1964, Marina Oswald interview was recorded, and who Mrs. Declan Ford asserted had supplied Marina with the line: "...there was one gun that was used," had resigned from the Wynne family law firm to represent Marina Oswald. McKenzie had been a law partner of attorney Bedford Wynne whose law firm represented the Wynne/Murchison/Rockefeller Great Southwest Corporation - at whose motel Marina Oswald was hidden by the Secret Service. While acting as Marina's lawyer, McKenzie was associated with attorney Peter White, who in 1954 arranged for the dismissal of charges against Jack Ruby. The Warren Commission ignored the fact that *Peter White's name, address, and phone number all appeared in Jack Ruby's notebook* - Peter White, the office mate of Marina Oswald's attorney and representative - though the Commission questioned Ruby's roommate George Senator about other entries in that same notebook. With evidence available of coached and altered Marina Oswald testimony on the very existence of a weapon and on that weapon's characteristics, directly traceable to individuals associated with an organized crime figure (Jack Ruby) and with the C.I.A. (George de Mohrenschildt), Marina's uncorroborated testimony on a "rifle" must remain dubious and suspect.

### **Did Oswald Ever Practice With A Rifle?**

In an effort to establish that Oswald possessed a rifle and that Oswald practiced with a rifle, the Commission selectively distorted the testimony of Marina Oswald to support its hypothesis that Lee Harvey Oswald possessed and practiced with a Mannlicher-Carcano. The contradictions in Marina's rifle-practice testimony are so extensive they almost defy reproduction. Howard Roffman, however, has collected nine of Marina's statements (or misstatements) on Lee's alleged practice which she made to the F.B.I. (five), the Secret Service (two), and the Warren Commission (two). Roffman's summary is definitive: from November 22nd, 1963, until her first appearance before the Warren Commission, Marina maintained she had no knowledge of Oswald's alleged rifle practice; before the Commission, she remembered two practice sessions but saw no rifle; afterward, she told the F.B.I. she *had* seen a rifle when Oswald concealed it as he left for night practice; one day later, she altered her story again: she *had* seen her husband with a rifle in January of 1963, she had heard Lee admit to practicing, and she had figured he must have practiced on other occasions. As Roffman commented, an incredible witness.

No sir [- I didn't call it a "7.65 Mauser"]; *I knew - you can read on the rifle what it was and you could also see on the cartridge what caliber it was.*

Wouldn't that make it a 6.5 mm. rifle of unusual and undetermined caliber?

A recently-declassified C.I.A. document proves that as late as November 25th, 1963, three days after the assassination, someone at the Agency was still calling the alleged assassin's weapon something other than a Carcano:

The rifle he used was a Mauser which OSWALD had ordered...from Klein's...[using] the name...HIDELL.

### The Five Missing Rifle Reports

The Commission attempted to make Weitzman the source of the "German Mauser" identification, including that of District Attorney Wade. Later, Wade seems to have been made the "Mauser" goat. Since the weapon recovered on November 22nd was described as a "Mauser" rifle by law authorities (including Wade) and by the media for twenty-four hours after the assassination, to single out the District Attorney as the source is certainly unfair; but it was less than candid of the Commission to attribute the Mauser story only to Weitzman. Henry Wade maintained that his identification of the alleged murder weapon as a "Mauser" was made on the basis of hearsay:

Rankin: In any of these press conferences that you have described did you ever say anything about the type of rifle...thought to be involved...?

Mr. Wade: I think that was one of the inaccuracies that Sunday night on the thing [Wade should have said "Friday night" or "Saturday morning"].

Rankin: What did you say about it?

Mr. Wade: [Wade need only have responded: "I said it was a Mauser; I was mistaken." Note the torturous prolixity of his response:] I think I said I thought it was a Mauser or I thought - was one of those things I didn't know what it was. It was an Italian gun, I think and I really thought I was giving them Italian but Mauser is a German gun, isn't it? But I think you have that - it was a situation, I don't contend I was right on that [why should he?] because it was a situation somebody asked me that and that is what I thought I was telling them and I never - all my information came from the police and actually somebody said originally it was a Mauser but it turned out it was not.

- Rankin: [who probably waited with patience, ready to end Wade's pain:]  
You learned it was not.
- Wade: [as if programmed:] Oh, yes; there is no question, *I am not contending whatever I said was so on that because I got it all secondhand from someone else.* (italics added)

Neither Rankin nor any investigator for the Warren Commission asked Wade who the source of his misinformation might have been. Rankin simply avoided asking, as he avoided asking Wade about the curious anxiety he displayed throughout this part of his testimony.

It must have come as a minor shock for District Attorney Wade, who had been told by Dallas law authorities on the 22nd that the rifle found at the Depository was a Mauser, and who had announced to the nation Saturday morning that he thought it was a Mauser, to go home early Saturday afternoon, check the television, and be stunned to see Police Chief Curry announcing that the F.B.I. had contacted *him*, identifying the rifle sent to Washington (which seems to have been a 7.65 Mauser bolt action rifle when it left Dallas early Saturday morning) as a 6.5 Italian carbine.

Lieutenant Day was credited by the Warren Commission with identifying the rifle in his possession as an Italian 6.5 mm. weapon. The Commission, however, supplied neither evidence nor documentation for its statement. Those references it did give to "document" the alleged Day identification were irrelevant to the Commission's assertion. And Day himself seemed to deny the Commission's statement: "I didn't describe the rifle to anyone other than [unidentified] police officers." One of those "police officers" seems to have been public relations officer Captain Glen D. King, but if Day did describe the weapon he examined to King, and King (doing his job) passed that description on to the working press the afternoon and evening of the 22nd, either Day described the rifle as a 7.65 Mauser, or King thought Day described it as such, since that description prevailed. No record, however, exists of a description Captain King gave to the news media, so we cannot be sure what Day said to anyone. No officer present at the alleged discovery in the Depository testified to Day's alleged accurate rifle identification at the moment the rifle was uncovered. Nor did Day so testify. But Lieutenant Day testified he made a detailed description of the rifle in his custody later in his office: "I took the gun myself and retained possession, took it to the office where I dictated [an identification memo]." The Day identification, according to all the available testimony, did not occur at the Depository as the Commission would have us believe. And the reportedly detailed description made by Day is missing both from the Report and from the supporting twenty-six volumes, though Day seems to be quoting from his memorandum briefly when he was examined.

Day testified he drove away from the Depository with F.B.I. agent Bardwell D. Odum, and that Day described the rifle he was carrying to Odum, who then, according to Day, "radioed it in...to the FBI over the air." Neither the Commissioners nor their counsel are on record as hearing Bardwell Odum as a witness. The Commission did receive an affidavit from Odum on an important but unrelated matter. Since Day possessed a rifle in Odum's presence, we may assume that F.B.I. agent Odum heard Day's alleged description and saw the rifle Day was transporting to Dallas "City Hall," where Day's section of the Identification Bureau - and the Dallas Police - had offices. The Commission neither heard from agent Odum nor checked the Bureau's radio log.

Deputy Constable Weitzman's un-dated identification to the F.B.I. - from which Warren Commission counsel Ball seems to be reading ("...worn, is that 'worn'?" Ball asked) - is nowhere in the twenty-six volumes.

Buried in the 210-page Dallas Police Department file submitted to the Warren Commission are two reports of Detective C.N. Dhority (badge #476), one of which includes the following passage:

About 9:00 PM [on November 22nd] Captain J.W. Fritz gave me three spent shells and advised me to take them to the Crime Lab to Lt. Day.... While I was at the Crime Lab, Lt. Day showed me the 6.5 rifle, and I wrote a description from the rifle.

The Dhority description of the Day rifle, made in the presence of Lieutenant Day, was never published. Dhority's "description," however, may be a report on the kind and caliber of *spent shells* allegedly found at the Depository: he "wrote a description [of the shells] from the rifle." Still, it constituted an important though possibly indirect description of the rifle itself. On April 6th, 1964, in Dallas, Warren Commission counsel Ball, John Hart Ely, and Samuel A. Stern (as well as historian Dr. Alfred Goldberg) were present at police officer Dhority's testimony. Ely, at one point, indicated he had read Dhority's report inside the Dallas Police file ("Now, your report states..."). Yet neither Ely nor Ball (who had heard Weitzman's testimony in Dallas just five days before) asked one question about Dhority's possible description of the "6.5 rifle" or of the spent shells. Why not?

Weitzman's F.B.I. description, Day's dictated memo, Day's description to Odum, Odum's broadcast, Dhority's description: five descriptions of a rifle assumed to have been found on the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository on November 22nd, 1963 - and all five are missing from the Commission's public record. Why weren't these five documents presented either in the *Report* or in the twenty-six Hearings volumes to support the Commission's argument on the rifle?

Is it possible that those five crucial but absent descriptions do not fit CE 139, the Warren Commission's rifle, the alleged weapon of the President's assassin?



## **CHAPTER 3**

### **THE RIFLE (III): THE RIVA MODIFICATION**

#### **Was The Commission's Rifle From Klein's of Chicago?**

What type of Mannlicher-Carcano did Klein's possess and have available for sale on February 22, 1963? In 1959, Louis and Irving Feldsott of Folsom Arms, in conjunction with Adam Consolidated, won the competitive bidding on approximately 570,000 6.5-mm. Model 91 and 91/38 Mannlicher-Carcanos offered in 1958 by the Italian Ministry of Defense. Consolidated acted as importer and financier. A new distributing entity, Crescent Firearms, was created on December 29th, 1959.

The 91s and 91/38s contracted for by Folsom-Adam-Crescent (hereafter called "F.A.C.") needed repair work. Alberto Bagnasco acted as F.A.C.'s legal agent in Italy. The weapons were to be picked up from the Italian Royal Arms Works in Terni under the supervision of the Ministry of Defense. Since the rifles would be most economically repaired and restored close to their pick-up point, Bagnasco made inquiries in Brescia, an arms-manufacturing center. He talked to the Breda gun works people. Breda did not find the job too attractive; still, the gun works asked master craftsman Luciano Riva if he could accomplish the task for the company. Riva had carried a model 91 as a member of the Italian Army in 1933; he had worked on 91s as early as 1935 for the Brescia National Arms Works (a private concern); as National's head technician during the war, he had supervised the manufacture of 12,000 Carcanos a month. He was the fifth generation of Riva to work in the arms field. In the 1950s, Riva became an executive at the Breda gun works in Brescia. Luciano Riva knew the Mannlicher-Carcano very well.

Riva, who had been planning to go into arms manufacturing on his own, was asked by the Breda officials to demonstrate his ability at alteration and repair. Breda supplied Riva with six rifles in a variety of model 91 Carcanos and requested finished samples of his master workmanship. He produced them for the arms company. When Adam Consolidated communicated its approval of Riva's restorative work, Alberto Bagnasco (on behalf of F.A.C.) offered Riva the repair contract independent of Breda, and the arms plant officials were happy to give up the job, allowing Riva to handle the Carcano restoration work on his own. A contract dated May 24th, 1960, between Riva and Adam sealed the relationship: Luciano Riva would repair, modify, and then deliver 150,000 weapons to Adam of New York. Since Brescia did not offer adequate space, Riva purchased a factory in Storo, near Brescia. But F.A.C. was anxious for Riva-modified Carcanos, so the riflemaker received permission to begin his work at the Royal Arms Works, Terni, where the first 8,000 Carcanos, drawn from the Terni warehouse, were renovated. Following that initial phase, Riva was able to move into his Storo plant. By October, 1960, his Storo facility allowed Riva to deliver 44,470 Carcanos to Adam in New York.

According to Henry Bloomgarden, Adam Consolidated had expressed "pleasure" with the earlier Riva samples, and F.A.C. was now "most anxious" for deliveries of the Storo-renovated Carcanos; when the first Riva rifles arrived, the American importers communicated their satisfaction to the Storo rifle renewer.

But Riva was not able to restore the rifles as fast as the Italian Ministry of Defense wanted Adam Consolidated to pick them up and pay for them. In turn, Riva had received only partial payment from Adam: the flow of weapons from the Defense Ministry to Storo to New York began to dry up. According to Adam, with thousands of rifles already delivered - and thousands sold - Riva's work was now not satisfactory. Complaints about the Carcano from California and Texas, for example, were being recorded; one Carcano had allegedly blown up in a rifleman's hands. Warren Commission critics cite these reports, together with gun experts' negative criticism of the 6.5-mm. Carcano, as evidence for the absurdity of the Commission's argument a potential assassin would have chosen such a weapon. On November 28th, 1963, one source noted:

The first lot of 7,000 [Carcanos] which Adam put on the American market had disastrous results. Many of them burst, with frequently fatal consequences, and many didn't fire. This forced Adam to withdraw all the rifles from sale and check them before putting them back on the market.

Supporters of the *Warren Report* prefer these alleged fatal accidents with the Carcanos be overlooked; reports of deadly rifle explosions do not enhance the reputation of an alleged assassination weapon.

But it is not at all clear that charges the Carcanos were "defective" (which were brought against Luciano Riva) had to do with *Riva-modified* Carcanos; Carcanos were everywhere, coming into the United States from both Europe and Canada, most of them without restoration, and many of these rifles, unmodified, rusty, worn, and dangerous, were the culprits. The Italian Navy, acting independently of the Italian Defense Ministry, contracted with the Beretta Arms Plant of Brescia in February of 1959 for the delivery of approximately 26,000 6.5-mm. Carcanos. The rifles were dumped on the American market between August and November of 1960 by Comir Creation, New York. Other arms dealers like International and Globe probably purchased Italian rifles from sources other than Adam and sold them in the Canadian and American weapons markets.

The word "defective" showed up in one Warren Commission document concerning a shipment of Riva rifles to Crescent, but it was a claim of defectiveness: Adam asserted the Riva rifles had arrived in New York in "deplorable condition." Luciano Riva would be in serious financial trouble unless he could straighten the problem out. He went to New York in December, 1960, and found that at the Yonkers warehouse of Folsom Arms, the Folsom people had attempted to *hand-load* the Carcanos without success. But the rifles "loaded with a clip," Riva remonstrated. Later, in his Warren Commission testimony, F.B.I. agent Robert Frazier verified that a Mannlicher-Carcano model 91/38 could not be adequately fired without a clip. Riva showed the Folsom employees in 1960 how it was done: the insertion of the 6.5-mm. rounds into the appropriate clip, the clip loaded into the Carcano, the test-firing of several of the Italian rifles. According to Riva, the weapons were not defective. The controversy continued, however, and Riva was the ultimate loser. Though the Carcano rifles were repaired, restored, and then sold, Luciano Riva did not profit.

But Riva had done his work. For F.A.C.'s prospective American customers, the Carcanos had required both modification and restoration: as one source summarized, it was "a matter...of barrels and blemishes." Some of the Carcanos were given shorter barrels, others longer; some remained as originally manufactured. The shorter barrel would accommodate to game-stalkers in heavy ground cover; the longer barrel would give target shooters increased velocity and hit power. Rust was removed, and defective or worn parts - like firing pins and bolts

- were removed and replaced. "Made in Italy" was reportedly stamped in English on each weapon, as F.A.C. required. And the identifying marks impressed by the Italian manufacturers on the breech and various other parts of each weapon were removed. Once modified and restored, the Mannlicher-Carcanos purchased by F.A.C. from the Italian Ministry of Defense were sold by Crescent Arms to a number of wholesaling and retailing firms. Ultimately, Klein's of Chicago received a part of F.A.C.'s 570,000 total: and those 6.5 mm. Mannlicher-Carcanos had their identifying characteristics ground off by Luciano Riva at his factory in Storo, Italy. According to F.B.I. agent Robert Frazier, the rifle which had been in his possession, allegedly CE 139, the Commission's rifle, did not have "Made in Italy" stamped on it, but rather "Made Italy." The difference is slight, but it suggests an importer other than F.A.C. More importantly, according to Frazier, the *alleged assassin's rifle*, purportedly purchased through Klein's, *had all of its identifying marks*. It cannot be, therefore, a Folsom-Adam-Crescent Carcano as modified by Luciano Riva and allegedly sold to Klein's.

F.A.C. did use another rifle restorer who worked on at least 80,000 Carcano rifles for the arms dealers. But if we are tracing a Riva-modified rifle delivered to Klein's of Chicago, those non-Riva rifles are not relevant. The Warren Commission argued that the assassination rifle was handled by Riva as an important link in its chain of evidence, and the last of Riva's twelve shipments of reconditioned and reportedly unmarked rifles from his Storo plant to the United States was dispatched by truck in September, 1960, to be sent to Adam Consolidated. Crescent Arms shipping slip number 3620 listed carton number 3376 in this last shipment. The third rifle listed in that carton of 91/38s, all allegedly 6.5 mm. Mannlicher-Carcanos, was a (barely readable) "C 2766."

### **Catch 2766**

If this "C 2766" was reconditioned by Luciano Riva for Folsom-Adam-Crescent, as an allegedly unbroken sequence of Warren Commission documents seems to show it was, then this "C 2766," like all the other rifles Riva repaired and modified for F.A.C., *had its identifying characteristics ground off*. The Commission's sequence of records does show that this "C 2766" was shipped to Adam Consolidated Industries in New York, and that this "C 2766," inside of one of 520 cartons of rifles, was consigned to Harborside Terminal Co., Jersey City, New Jersey, where it was warehoused for two years and four months. Fred Rupp of Perkasio, Pennsylvania, allegedly handled this "C 2766" next; with a sub-contract from Crescent Arms, he unpacked, cleaned, and test-fired each weapon, then

shipped the re-packed rifles to designated Crescent Arms' customers. Mutilated cartons were discarded, and the weapons were re-packed in new cartons. Defective weapons were replaced by Rupp with operational ones, and the rifle which was substituted for the non-functioning weapon was then listed in place of the removed rifle. Rupp allegedly shipped carton number 3376, containing "C 2766," to Klein's Sporting Goods of Chicago. Klein's allegedly received carton 3376 *containing C 2766* from Crescent via Rupp on February 21st, 1963.

If we have followed this Carcano attentively, this "C 2766," we know that if it *had* serial number "C 2766," then it could not be the rifle about which F.B.I. firearms expert Robert Frazier testified, since the Klein's "C 2766" was an Italian Ministry of Defense/Folsom-Adam-Crescent/Riva-modified Carcano with its identifying marks eliminated. According to F.B.I. agent Frazier, the rifle in his possession at the F.B.I.'s Washington laboratory, allegedly CE 139, *still possessed its marks* when he examined it on November 23rd, 1963. Those Frazier-reported identifying marks were conspicuously listed in the *Warren Report* as the final items in the Terni/Defense Ministry/F.A.C./Klein sequence.

*If the Riva-modified rifle in fact carried a serial number "C 2766" but had its other identifying marks removed, and if CE 139 allegedly possessed both its identifying marks and the serial number "C 2766," did CE 139 then share its serial number with another Italian Carcano rifle - possibly several?*

According to the Warren Report:

Information received from the Italian Armed Forces Intelligence Service has established that this particular rifle was the only rifle of its type bearing serial number C 2766.

Sylvia Meagher has pointed out the ambiguity of the phrase, "the only rifle of its type." Does it mean that the "C 2766" is *not* unique? In an F.B.I. document dated April 22, 1964, transmitted to the Commission by F.B.I. Director J. Edgar Hoover, whose cover letter was dated April 30th, 1964, it was reported that F.B.I. agents were informed by a Canadian arms dealer (who also handled Mannlicher-Carcanos) that in the 1930s, because

*...Mussolini ordered all arms factories to manufacture the same weapon, the same serial number appears on weapons manufactured by more than one concern. Some bear a letter prefix and some do not. (italics added)*

No fewer than five Italian arms plants were then in existence: the Army Weapons Plant at Terni, the Pietro Beretta Arms Plant, the Breda Gun Works, the Franchi Gun Works, and the (privately-owned) National Arms Works. Therefore, as many model 91/38 Mannlicher-Carcanos with the same serial number (2766 or C 2766) could have been circulating as there were Italian rifle factories: at least two and possibly five.

In fact, both the F.B.I. and J. Lee Rankin, Chief Counsel of the Warren Commission, knew two 6.5 mm. Mannlicher-Carcano rifles with the serial number 2766 existed. J. Edgar Hoover and the F.B.I. had such knowledge *earlier* than February 21st, 1964; Rankin had such knowledge *no later* than February 21st, 1964. No mention of this second "2766" Carcano appeared in the Warren Report, and only Sylvia Meagher has called our attention to its existence. The exchange of Bureau-Commission letters concerned the alleged assassin's rifle. At various points in the investigation it was called "K 1," "C 18," "C 10," "C 14," "CE 139," and the "C 2766 rifle." The Warren Commission stated in its exhibits list it would refer to the alleged assassination weapon as the "C 2766 rifle," but it more often designated the alleged murder weapon "CE 139" or "the rifle." Rankin seems to have requested of Hoover some substantiation of the alleged evidence linking CE 139 to Klein's and then to "A. Hidell." The Chief Counsel also requested information about a second rifle bearing the serial number "2766." The Rankin-Hoover exchange, therefore, was about two "2766" Carcanos. Note, however, how differently J. Edgar Hoover treated the two:

1. the Commission's C 2766: ...the 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano

...6.5 M/M Mannlicher-Carcano Italian Military Rifle, Model 91/38,  
Serial Number C 2766 (Exhibit C 10, also identified as K 1)

2. the other 2766: ...an Italian carbine rifle, serial number 2766.

...6.5 Italian Carbine Rifle, Serial Number 2766....

The C 2766 almost has a kind of dignity, puffed up with its millimeters and multiple exhibit numbers; the other 2766 seems, somehow, shabby in comparison.

Hoover wrote to Rankin on March 26th, 1964, five days before his firearms expert, Robert Frazier, appeared before the Commission. Hoover attached a "Secret" memorandum, nine F.B.I. photographs, and "one page of the shipping manifest, number 3376 relating to the C 14 rifle." First, the memorandum established the alleged assassination rifle's pedigree in relation to Luciano Riva. Second, the shipping manifest was the document that linked a "C 2766" rifle from Riva to Adam Consolidated, from the port of Genoa to New York City. Two significant Riva-related documents linked the modified Carcano to the Storo factory and to Adam Consolidated. The attached "Secret" memorandum, declassified on June 16th, 1964, bears scrutiny; its emphasis tells us what Hoover and the F.B.I. felt was important in establishing the identity of the rifle in their possession. The "confidential source" of this classified F.B.I. document was S.I.F.A.R., the Italian Armed Forces Intelligence Service:

Rifle C14 was manufactured by...Terni....

The number C2766 which appears on the barrel of the C14 rifle is the serial number of the rifle.

The C14 rifle is the only one of its type which bears serial number C2766.

It was not possible to definitely establish how many of this type of rifle were sold. ...[the] Riva Machine Shop...shipped rifles of the same type to Adam Consolidated.... Rifle C14 was one of the rifles in a lot of 5200 so shipped.

One more item from this F.B.I. document concerns us - the comment on the first of the nine photographs attached to Hoover's letter to Rankin: "Depicts one of the weapons 91/38 modified by ...Riva Machine Shop and sold to the Adam Consolidated Industries...." What "Photograph 1." of Hoover's transmission "depicted," and what was entered into the Commission's evidence when F.B.I. agent Robert Frazier testified five days later, was a duplicate photograph of a prior Warren Commission exhibit: CE 139. Transmitted by cover letter from J. Edgar Hoover to J. Lee Rankin on March 26th, 1964, was information gained from the Italian Armed Forces Intelligence Service which established that, according to the F.B.I., Commission Exhibit 139 was a Riva-modified rifle (that duplicate photograph of CE 139 can be seen in 17 H, page 238).

The Warren Commission staff made checking this vital evidence unusually difficult. The Hoover-Rankin exchange is in 25 H; in 24 H, we find another copy of the "Secret" memorandum, together with the shipping manifest; in 17 H, we find the nine photographs.

On April 30th, 1964, Hoover again wrote to Rankin, referring to Rankin's February 21st letter (correct) and his own letter of March 27th (incorrect). Attached to Hoover's letter was the series of documents tracing a rifle with serial number "C 2766" from Terni, to the Italian Defense Ministry, to Riva, to Crescent, to Klein's: except Luciano Riva now went unmentioned, somehow lost inside the following passage: "The guns purchased were packed by a Crescent company agent in Italy in the presence of Italian authorities and at the time the serial number for each rifle was checked." What had occurred to diminish the central importance of the Riva link in the chain? F.B.I. firearms expert Robert Frazier had appeared as a witness before the Warren Commission on March 31st, 1964.

The sequence is impressive: (1) an F.B.I. report is transmitted, based on a "confidential source," hinting at clandestine secrets and inside information, with F.B.I., laboratory photographs and a document in Italian; (2) an F.B.I. technical expert testifies on millimeters and decimal points, on ballistics and bore diameters; (3) evidence is submitted, allegedly establishing an unbroken chain from Terni to "A. Hidell." It is obvious that the sequence is...out of sequence.

And what happened to the second 6.5-mm. Mannlicher-Carcano known to carry the serial number 2766? On page 13 of the F.B.I. report attached to Hoover's letter of April 30th, 1964, this heading appeared:

RE: 6.5 Italian Carbine Rifle,  
Serial Number 2766, Shipped from  
Century Arms, Incorporated, St. Albans,  
Vermont, to Aldens of Chicago, July 5, 1962.

Minus the original underlining, the heading is reproduced exactly. The material which follows that heading is not easy to organize, but here is what it communicates: Empire Wholesale of Montreal, *really* International Arms of Montreal, shipped a number of Mannlicher-Carcanos by railway to Century Arms at St. Albans, Vermont. International maintained a list of serial numbers, at least for this shipment. In contradiction, William Sucher, International owner (and the F.B.I. source for the Bureau's statement on multiple Italian rifles manufactured with the same number) stated it was *not* his practice to keep serial numbers; the rifles had been purchased originally by the pound. Still, Bureau exhibit D 156, furnished by the owner of Century Arms, gave this information:



Original list of Serial Numbers of 700 Carcano Italian Carbines Received by Century Arms, Incorporated, from Empire Wholesale Sporting Goods Limited, Montreal...Serial Number 2766 Appears on Last Page of Numbers (Exhibit D 103)

Again, the underlining has been eliminated. This shipment of rifles was received by Alden's of Chicago for re-sale as second-hand weapons on July 12th, 1962. But, according to Alden's, the serial numbers were not available. Albert Lesko, Manager of Alden's Accounting Department in Chicago, furnished the F.B.I. this last piece of information. Did the Bureau ask Mr. Lesko *why* the numbers weren't preserved? Did the Bureau ask if any sales of Carcanos had been made to individuals in Texas between July 13th, 1962, and November 21st, 1963? Specifically, did the F.B.I. inquire if Lee Harvey Oswald, or "A. Hidell," "A.G. Hidell," or "A.J. Hidell" of Irving or Dallas, Texas, purchased a Carcano between those dates? Did the Bureau inquire whether anyone associated with Oswald ordered a Carcano from Alden's? It seems inconceivable the Bureau would not have made such inquiries. After all, F.B.I. agents had asked that Klein's re-open in the middle of the night, and that Klein's microfilm records be checked, each order from 1962 through November, 1963, carefully read through - for over four hours. Why is the International/Century/Alden's 6.5-mm. Mannlicher-Carcano treated so lightly? Why are its records incomplete? Why is no report of an F.B.I. investigation of Alden's Carcano purchasers available in the Commission's records?

Could it be that when the F.B.I. "investigated" the sales of Carcanos at Klein's of Chicago, it already knew what it would find? Or, given the known and admitted suppression of evidence by the F.B.I. in the Kennedy assassination case, did the F.B.I. find that someone in Dallas or Irving had purchased a Carcano, whose exposure would have been embarrassing to the F.B.I. - or to the Dallas police? Was the State Department, responsible for the administration of the Munitions Control Act, or the Treasury Department's Alcohol, Tobacco, and Gun Division, interested in this international arms traffic, especially given the admitted loose record-keeping by International Arms' owner William Sucher? The Commission's records are silent on these provocative possibilities. An Italian 6.5-mm. Mannlicher-Carcano, serial number 2766, arrived at Alden's of Chicago on July 12th, 1962, to be sold to some eager American shooter. No record of J. Lee Rankin's discomfort at the thought that the Alden's Carcano might have wound up as private property in Irving, or in Dallas, or in the possession of say, the Dallas Police, or the F.B.I., is available in the public records of the Warren Commission. But, as of July 12th, 1962, the Carcano existed: serial number 2766.

Interestingly, we know the probable condition of the Alden's rifle:

William Sucher...advised he has bought hundreds of thousands of rifles overseas as Italian Government surplus and does not maintain serial numbers.... Many were collected from battlefields and places of improper storage and they were in very poor condition.

Alden's 2766 Carcano might have been a Frankenstein creature: "defective parts were removed and salable rifles were sometimes composed of parts of three or more weapons." A rifle could easily have a stock from one weapon, a bolt from another, a receiver and barrel (carrying a serial number) from still a third. Sucher is silent about what was Riva's standard practice: the removal of identifying marks. Of course, some firm like International Arms must have sold Carcanos with identifying characteristics, because *the Commission's rifle* - or at least the rifle about which F.B.I. agent Robert Frazier testified - *still had its marks*. Did the Alden's Mannlicher-Carcano retain its identifying marks? And might they have been: "RE TERNI," "CAL. 6.5," "ROCCA," etc., with "MADE ITALY" added?

Did the Alden's Mannlicher-Carcano, possibly in need of a "plunger" because its firing pin was rusty and worn, or with its barrel scored and oxidized from disuse, require repair? Did it need holes bored for a scope-mounting with a 4X scope imported by "Ordnance Optics" from Japan and purchased, say, at Dave's House of Guns at 2544 Elm St., Dallas? Was it taken to the Irving Gun Shop in Irving, Texas, for repair by someone who called himself "Oswald"?

Did the F.B.I. or the Warren Commission care? Or did they know?

At least one Mannlicher-Carcano bearing a serial number similar to the Commission's rifle was available in the United States after July 12th, 1962, according to the Bureau. Were there more? Was there one rifle bearing the identical serial number "C 2766" available? The F.B.I. had information it was quite possible. Did the Alden's rifle in fact carry that serial number? The intelligence agencies and the Warren Commission did not tell us everything about Lee Harvey Oswald, about Jack Leon Ruby, about the discovery of CE 399 at Parkland Memorial Hospital, about the doctors' reports on Kennedy's wounds at Parkland, about Kennedy's Bethesda autopsy, about the attempted assassinations of Fidel Castro by the Syndicate, mercenaries, anti-Castro Cubans, and the Central Intelligence Agency. Can we then be confident they told us everything about the rifle in their possession, or about another rifle whose record was conveniently buried in 25 H of the Commission's Hearings?

## **CHAPTER 4**

### **THE RIFLE (IV): 40.2**

#### **The F.B.I. Mannlicher-Carcano**

On Tuesday, March 31st, 1964, F.B.I. agent Robert A. Frazier, Bureau firearms expert, testified before the Warren Commission. Frazier had been asked "to provide technical information to assist the Commission in [its] work." But Frazier's role was much more crucial. After J. Edgar Hoover had established the mystique of the Bureau ("Secret" reports, laboratory photographs, and documents in Italian) in his March 26th, 1964, communication to J. Lee Rankin, Frazier appeared to legitimize the rifle in his possession - to place the F.B.I.'s seal of approval on the alleged assassination rifle:

**Mr. Eisenberg:** Mr. Frazier, I now hand you a rifle marked Commission Exhibit 139. Are you familiar with this weapon?

**Mr. Frazier:** Yes, I am.

**Mr. Eisenberg:** And do you recognize it by serial number or by your mark?

**Mr. Frazier:** By serial number on the barrel, and by my initials which appear on various parts of the weapon.

Did anyone on the Commission's staff check those "initials"? Were they on both the barrel and on the stock? Was Dallas Lieutenant Day's mark on the stock?

Mr. Eisenberg: Can you describe this rifle by name and caliber?

Mr. Frazier: It is a caliber 6.5 Italian military rifle, commonly referred to...as a 6.5-mm. Mannlicher-Carcano.

Later:

Mr. Eisenberg: Can you explain how you made the identification of this rifle?

Mr. Frazier: I identified it pictorially...in reference books. And the actual identification was of the manufacturer's name appearing on the barrel and serial number...

Later:

Mr. Eisenberg: Is there any reason that you can think of why this Exhibit 139 might be thought to be a 7.35- or 7.65-caliber rifle?

Mr. Frazier: From outward appearances, it could be a 7.35-mm. rifle, because, basically, that is what it is. But its mechanism has been rebarreled with a 6.5-mm. barrel.

Later:

Mr. Eisenberg: And is the 6.5-caliber weapon distinguished from the 7.35-caliber weapon by name?

Mr. Frazier: Yes, it is; it is by the model number. The model 91/38 designates the 6.5-mm. rifle, whereas the model 38 designates the 7.35.

Wrong. And a peculiar error for the F.B.I.'s firearms expert to make, whose task was to supply technical information to the Commission on the alleged assassination rifle. The 91 was a 6.5 mm.; the 91/38 was originally a 7.35; some model 91/38 7.35 mm. Carcanos were rebarreled for 6.5; others remained 7.35.

Eisenberg next began an examination of the nine photographs sent by Hoover to J. Lee Rankin, asking Frazier if he took, or caused to have taken, the photographs; Frazier affirmed he had, and gave the source of the F.B.I.'s information as "...SIFAR..., through the FBI representative in Rome, Italy." Frazier indicated the S.I.F.A.R. communication was still classified, but that the material in it could be "released to the Commission." Recall that later, in June, 1964, S.I.F.A.R. lifted its classification. Though the Commission went off the record with Frazier at this moment to discuss the "Secret" Italian report, and though Eisenberg began

re-questioning Frazier "without reference to any classified information," a comparison between the declassified document and Frazier's testimony makes it obvious Frazier was either paraphrasing or quoting from the March 17th, 1964, F.B.I. report. Frazier incorrectly gave the date of the S.I.F.A.R. transmission to the Bureau as March 26th; it was actually March 16th. Frazier had trouble with numbers throughout his Commission testimony. Frazier seems to be paraphrasing information the F.B.I. received from International Arms' owner William Sucher, but it is not clear whether the same information was also received from the Italian Armed Forces Intelligence Service:

The serial number consists of a series of numbers which normally will be repeated. However, a prefix is placed before the number, which actually must be part of the serial number, consisting of a letter.

But what William Sucher actually reported to the F.B.I. (and which may have been confirmed by S.I.F.A.R.) was: "Some bear a letter prefix and some do not." That is, some *repeated* serial identifications include a *repeated* letter, and some do not include a repeated letter. Frazier does not make that distinction clear to the Commission.

Mr. Eisenberg: Have you been able to confirm that the serial number of this weapon is the only such number on such a weapon?

Mr. Frazier: Yes, it is.

Incorrect. The Hoover submissions, the declassified S.I.F.A.R. materials, Frazier's testimony, the Report, documents in the twenty-six volumes, and other F.B.I. and Commission documents publicly available do not confirm that the alleged serial number "C 2766" on the Mannlicher-Carcano in Robert Frazier's possession was "the only such number on such a weapon." Frazier's "Yes, it is" is unsupported by evidence.

Eisenberg asked Frazier about the "markings": "Now...could you briefly describe the markings shown on these photographs?" Whether by accident or design, Eisenberg allowed Frazier to testify about the *photographs* rather than the "rifle" directly. The consequences were crucial to the Commission's case against Lee Harvey Oswald.

Mr. Frazier: The first photograph is an overall photo of the rifle.

Eisenberg then broke in, asking Frazier to indicate by number which picture he was talking about.

Mr. Frazier:      Photograph No. 1 is an overall  
                         photograph of the rifle.

But that is not what the alleged S.I.F.A.R. information indicated. From that document, as I have said, the rifle in the F.B.I.'s possession gained its legitimacy by being established as a Riva-modified rifle. The document then presented "a detailed description of the markings and numbers which appear in the photographs of the C14 rifle, serial number C2766" ("C14" is an F.B.I. identification number, assigned to the "K 1" rifle allegedly delivered to the F.B.I. from the Dallas police by a "special" evidence aircraft in the early hours of November 23rd, 1963). The crucial "Photograph No. 1" identification followed, quite different from Frazier's testimony: "Depicts one of the weapons 91/38 modified by the Carlo Riva Machine Shop and sold to the Adam Consolidated Industries, Inc., of New York." What is given in 17 H, page 238, as Commission Exhibit 541 (first photograph of a series of nine), is a reproduction of the photograph of Commission Exhibit 139, previously published in 16 H, page 512. Exhibit 139 was introduced, you will recall, as Commission evidence the afternoon of Thursday, February 6th, 1964. Which photograph illustrated which event? Frazier did not testify until March 31st, 1964. Did the Commission simply duplicate his photograph as an illustration of CE 139, or did Frazier present a print of the Commission's CE 139 photograph as the first of his nine? Whichever, the pictures are identical: they can be superimposed, point for point, including the 12-inch ruler which appears below the photographed rifle. In both prints, the open bolt area is inexplicably darkened. The rest of the March 17th, 1964, F.B.I.-S.I.F.A.R. document listed and explained the remaining eight photographs, and Frazier's testimony either was taken from or paraphrased the document. All of the familiar markings were read into the Commission's record: "Made Italy," "TNI," etc; nothing startling except when the actual photographs are juxtaposed to the F.B.I.-S.I.F.A.R. report, and the report, in turn, is juxtaposed to Frazier's testimony. CE 541, photo no. 2, clearly shows "C 2766": good focus, no glare; the metal on the rifle and that part of the scope which shows is glossy. Photo no. 3 is well-focused but much too far away from the rifle: even with magnification, the scope markings are difficult to read, and "1940, "MADE ITALY," and the letters "RE" are virtually impossible to read clearly. Photo No. 4 was made, it seems, to illustrate the caliber marking, but the glare off the metal surface is quite bad; with magnification, what seems to be imprinted is "CAL. 5": either the F.B.I.'s photographic light washed out the number or numbers preceeding the "5," or the number was worn off. Curiously, Photo No. 4 is the only one of the nine on which the words "FBI Laboratory" can be seen. And the photo gives us an odd bit of new information which is neither in the F.B.I.-S.I.F.A.R. document nor in Frazier's

testimony; typed at the top of the picture is "Letter 'X' follows inscription '1940.'" Contrary to the Warren Report and to Frazier's testimony, the "year" of the rifle allegedly in agent Frazier's possession (as recorded in CE 541, no. 4) is "1940X." I have not yet been able to discover what the "X" signifies.

### **"Only 40" Overall"**

The identity between the photograph illustrating CE 139 and the photograph illustrating CE 541 (photo no. 1) is crucial to the next series of answers Frazier gave in his testimony. Frazier was asked by Eisenberg: "Have you measured the dimensions of this rifle assembled, and disassembled?," and Frazier replied, "Yes, I have." Eisenberg followed with: "Could you give us that information?" So simple a task, so simple a request; and the Commission, the writers of the Warren Report, and commentators on the Commission and its work have accepted the testimony which followed without question. But *either Robert E. Frazier testified incorrectly, or the photographs in the Commission's public record are of a rifle other than the rifle which had been in the possession of the F.B.I. and about which firearms expert Frazier testified.* The entire Commission case hangs on this contradiction.

Mr. Frazier:       The overall length is 40.2 inches.

.....  
The stock length is 34.8...the wooden portion  
from end to end....The barrel and action from  
the muzzle to the rear of the tang...is 28.9  
inches. The barrel only is 21.18 inches.

The photographs of CE 139 and CE 541 (photo number 1.) are identical. Both have the same ruler within the frame of the picture. The same ruler appears in photographs of a Depository book carton, CE 641 and CE 648. Because both prints of the Commission's rifle are dark (though CE 541 is the lighter of the two), the front end of the stock is not easy to discern: but it can be found. Measuring from that point to the butt-end in the photograph of CE 139 (and CE 541), and repeating that measurement dozens of times using the 12-inch ruler within the frame of both prints as the invariant measure, I found *the stock of CE 139/CE 541 to be no more than 34.5.* Frazier's measurement was 34.8: only a .3 difference, of course. But measuring the *total length of CE 139/CE 541*, I found the rifle in the photo illustrating the alleged assassin's rifle to be *no more than 40 inches*; in fact, its total length is closer to 39 inches. Frazier's measurement was 40.2, longer by at least .2 and as much as 1.2 inches. *Either Frazier was incorrect in his measurement or the Commission's rifle is a rifle different from the weapon in the possession of the F.B.I. and its firearms expert, Robert A. Frazier.*

The difference is critical; did F.B.I. agent Frazier measure - and did he testify about - a rifle which was not the Commission's rifle? Remember, a Riva-modified rifle would have had its identifying marks removed; the Frazier rifle allegedly retained its identifying characteristics. The F.B.I./S.I.F.A.R. document was illustrated by Frazier with a duplicate photograph of CE 139, allegedly establishing CE 139, *which is no more than 40 inches long* according to the Warren Commission's own evidence, as a Riva weapon. Is CE 139 such a weapon - or is it not? Which rifle had Frazier examined? Which rifle had Frazier testified about? The weapon allegedly presented in evidence as the assassin's rifle had a photographed stock of 34.5 inches and a total length of no more than 40 inches. Frazier testified the rifle in his possession had a stock of 34.8 inches and a total length of 40.2 inches. Commission Exhibit 139 and the F.B.I./Frazier rifle cannot be the same - unless, of course, agent Frazier miscalculated. If so, *what else was Frazier wrong about?* Can we believe that the rifle Lieutenant Day handed over to the F.B.I. late Friday, November 22nd, 1963, in Dallas, suffered a transportation change, both in its stock length and, more importantly, its overall length?

Two other alleged illustrations of the Commission's rifle are important: they are Commission Exhibit 1303 and 1304. If CE 1303 is a photograph of the Warren Commission's rifle, then it is the best photographic presentation of that fundamental item of evidence. An assembled Mannlicher-Carcano, the worn or discolored wood of its stock is fairly visible, and the weapon seems to be lying flat, an unusual position for the alleged assassin's rifle, which had a propensity for being photographed at oblique angles, upside down, or with major portions of its anatomy hidden. On the same page is CE 1304 (two photos, the first of a long paper bag, the second of a disassembled Mannlicher-Carcano). The barrel and action, from muzzle to tang, is the clearest of any Commission photographs of that part of the rifle, and if CE 1304 is also a photograph of the Commission's rifle, then we have another good representation of the Commission's rifle, CE 139. In both prints, an extended tape measure appears below the rifle; it lies fairly straight and flat in CE 1304, but is curved and at an angle to the horizontal plane of the pictured rifle in CE 1303. Additionally, even at a high magnification, the numbers on both tapes begin to fade out at 33 and 34 inches.

But if the tape and the rifle in CE 1303 are in the same focal plane, and are the same distance from the camera's lens, then *the rifle in CE 1303 is between 39 and 40 inches long*. The stock of the rifle in CE 1303, if the tape measure can be accepted, is only 34 to 34.5 inches long. Superimposing CE 1303 on 1304, I found that the muzzle-to-tang portion pictured in both to be identical. Again, if the tape



measure in both photographs is to be relied on, the rifle pictured in both CE 1303 and 1304 has a barrel and action length of only 27.5. Thus, the rifle illustrated in CE 139 and CE 541 and the rifle illustrated in CE 1303 and 1304 seem to have similar if not identical measurements. All the "rifles" seem to be no more than 40 inches long; all the "rifles" seem to have a stock no more than 34.5 inches long. The rifle illustrated in CE 139, CE 541, and in CE 1303 (and the muzzle-to-tang portion of CE 1304) seem to be the same rifle, no more than 40 inches long, with a stock no more than 34.5 inches long. This CE 139/CE 541/CE 1303 rifle was not described by F.B.I. agent Robert Frazier; but it was on his testimony that the Warren Commission based its description of the rifle allegedly in its possession.

One curious fact, suggesting either falsification of evidence or carelessness: the stock of the disassembled rifle in CE 1304 is larger than the stock of the assembled rifle in CE 1303, because the rifle stock in CE 1304, identical in discoloration and wear to the stock in CE 1303, has been photographically enlarged.

A full chronology of "the" rifle is almost impossible to reconstruct, but certain key moments are recoverable, recorded either on film or in documents. Lt. Day was photographed by several newspeople as he carried a rifle out the Depository; that rifle looks like a Mannlicher-Carcano, but we cannot be certain. Sometime after 1:30 p.m., Day rode back to his office with F.B.I. Agent Bardwell Odum, and in the afternoon Day dictated an identification memo; the rifle was placed in Day's safe, and he returned to the Depository. Day was back at "City Hall," the home of the Dallas Police department before 7:00, probably about 6:00 p.m. He was asked to bring the rifle down so that Marina Oswald might view it; the time was about 6:00 p.m. But Marina was unable to identify the weapon. Newspeople gathered; Day held the rifle aloft; UPI and Wide World both took photographs that were distributed nationally on November 23rd; both were seen in Europe for the next several days. Behind Day in these photos was an electric clock. With magnification, the time can be read, but barely: 6:17 p.m., November 22nd. Those UPI and Wide World photos are both the best non-Commission photos of the alleged assassination rifle and the most disputed; excessive flashbulb light washed out details on the scope, and the front sight was so blurred that several media sources "touched it up." Unfortunately, one retoucher rounded off the sight, and the Mannlicher-Carcano has a *shark-fin* sight. Together with an optical illusion of length created by the angle at which Day was holding the rifle (so that this "displayed" weapon seemed much longer than flatter photos of the alleged assassination weapon) the re-touched or washed-out details on the sight (and the scope) helped create "another" rifle - possibly a longer 7.35-mm. Mannlicher-Carcano.

Allegedly, Lieutenant Day officially photographed the rifle purportedly found at the Depository between 9:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.. The photograph was reproduced in the Warren Commission's volumes. But the picture was taken from a distance, at an angle, and the rifle was upside-down. It looked shorter than the rifle Day held up for the nation's news cameras earlier in the evening. Another version of that same rifle pose (the Carcano resting on its scope) was printed in Jesse Curry's *Assassination File*. Unhappily, no scale is given within the frame of the picture; but relative distances can be measured. Having compared the dimensions of the rifle which Lieutenant Day displayed at 6:17 p.m. (after showing it to Marina Oswald) with the dimensions of the Dallas Police photo which Day took (printed in Chief Curry's book), I can say with certainty that the two Carcanos are the same size. A third comparison, again without a scale (but matching dimension to dimension), with the Commission's photograph of CE 139 establishes a size and detail identity between the Day rifle of November 22nd and CE 139. The rifle which Lieutenant Day allegedly photographed and which he displayed on November 22nd is either the same rifle or a rifle of the same size, detail for detail, as the Commission's CE 139. Even the rifle which Klein's advertised in the November issue of *Field and Stream* was described as only 40 inches "overall." And Frazier himself supplied the evidence for "another rifle" which confirmed the length of the Commission's rifle. Mr. Eisenberg: Now, I hand you you a rifle which is marked C-250.

Are you familiar with this rifle?

Mr. Frazier: Yes, sir.

Mr. Eisenberg: Can you describe it briefly?

Mr. Frazier: *It is an identical rifle physically to the rifle Commission's Exhibit 139, in that it is the same caliber, 6.5-mm. Mannlicher-Carcano Italian Military rifle Model 91/38. (italics added)*

It is so like the Commission's rifle, CE 139, that a prominent critic mistook it for CE 139 and used it as an illustration of what he called "Oswald's rifle." It is neither "Oswald's rifle" nor CE 139; it is CE 542, one of "Frazier's rifles," called a "replica" of the Commission's CE 139 in its own listing of exhibits. And if the 12-inch ruler within the frame of the picture is an accurate guide, then Frazier's "identical rifle physically to the Commission's Exhibit 139" is no more than 40 inches long. Firearms expert Frazier ordered a "replica" from Klein's of Chicago of the rifle he testified was 40.2 inches in length, and received a rifle (C250/CE 542) no more than 40 inches long.

The F.B.I. described a 40.2-inch Mannlicher-Carcano which was rusty, worn, needed parts replaced, and still possessing its identifying marks. If the rifle about which Bureau agent Robert Frazier testified was a Riva-modified rifle, then that rifle would have had its rust removed, would have had its non-functioning parts repaired or replaced, and would have had its identifying marks eliminated. And when Robert Frazier attempted to order a "replica" of the Commission's Mannlicher-Carcano, Klein's sent him a rifle no more than 40 inches long, matching the rifle which was in the possession of the Dallas Police and which was photographed as no more than 40 inches in at least three separate Commission Exhibit illustrations. An investigation by the F.B.I. itself, incomplete as the records are, established that no fewer than two, and possibly as many as five, Mannlicher-Carcanos could have shared the same serial number. The only significant and crucial testimony linking "A. Hidell" of Dallas, Texas, to a Mannlicher-Carcano allegedly ordered from Klein's of Chicago, and a rifle allegedly found in the Texas School Book Depository is the now-questionable Commission appearance of F.B.I. agent Robert A. Frazier, whose description of the rifle which had been in his possession in Washington does not match the Commission's photographs of CE 139, CE 542, and CE 1303 (and CE 1304), the alleged assassin's weapon.

At 11:45 p.m. C.S.T., November 22nd, 1963, a 6.5-mm. Mannlicher-Carcano was turned over to F.B.I. agent Vincent E. Drain of the Bureau's Dallas office by Lieutenant Day of the Dallas Police. Drain transported that rifle - or another rifle - on a special plane to Washington. Secret Service Agent Winston G. Lawson (former Army counter-intelligence agent) was asked by Secret Service Inspector Thomas Kelly to accompany F.B.I. Agent Drain aboard the "special" evidence plane bound for Washington and the F.B.I. laboratory. On November 23rd, 1963, J. Edgar Hoover sent Police Chief Jesse Curry the F.B.I. laboratory reports on the assassination evidence - incomplete and misleading, as the spectrographic documents released in 1975 so prove. According to Hoover's report to Chief Curry, "K 1[,] a 6.5 millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano, with telescopic sight, Serial No. C 2766" - an "Italian military rifle Model 91/38" - had been received from Special Agent Drain on November 23rd, 1963. Hoover asserted that the bullet allegedly found at Parkland Memorial Hospital allegedly matched the K 1 rifle ballistically: the suppression of physical evidence pointing to conspiracy had begun.

The "K 1" rifle was to be returned to Dallas by Agent Drain. Which rifle went to Washington? Which rifle was returned to Dallas? Which rifle was turned over to the Warren Commission? Which rifle did F.B.I. agent Frazier have possession of, in Washington, at the F.B.I. laboratory?



## CHAPTER 5

### THE RIFLE (V): NEW EVIDENCE: THE ANDREOTTI/S.I.F.A.R. DOCUMENT

#### **The Weitzman Yarn and The F.B.I.**

The Report of the President's Commission on the Assassination of John F. Kennedy was dated "September 24, 1964." Weeks earlier, *Life* magazine had received typed copy from an elected American legislator extremely close to the Warren Commission's investigation with access to all the Commission's files, including its documents marked "Top Secret." Some time later he would divulge significant material from those secret documents in a book he co-authored which apparently violated the U.S. Code. But in the October 2nd edition of *Life*, he used those Commission files for the first time to tell the inside story of the Warren Commission's tortured, "twisting trails," as he would phrase it. Most importantly, he seemed to be in possession of critical information not available elsewhere:

...an early report had quoted police as saying the rifle was a Mauser....  
The two rifles bear only slight resemblance. Result: more public confusion....  
When police insisted that there had been just the one Italian rifle, it seemed to many that they were trying to hide something.

.....  
When Oswald fled the sixth floor of the Depository, he had thrust the rifle behind a stack of boxes. It was found by the first investigating officers....

A reporter, facing an immediate deadline, asked an officer standing nearby what make the rifle might be. He said he thought it might be a Mauser. The reporter filed his story, calling the gun a Mauser, and the description was relayed around the world. Although it was followed by a correction, the error stirred up wide suspicions.

The "elected legislator" was, of course Warren Commissioner Gerald Ford, then U.S. Representative, Michigan. Those readers familiar with assassination writings will have recognized Commissioner Ford's *Life* magazine story by the third or fourth line of this re-telling; but even for those knowledgeable readers, I hope the story was re-cast sufficiently to contextualize the point I am making. Representative Ford was extremely close to the investigation; he did have access to all of the Commission files; he did use those files to break a story not found either in the *Report* or in the twenty-six Hearings volumes (in his and John Stiles' *Portrait of the Assassin*). Not until Harold Weisberg won his suit against the government were we able to verify Ford's reporting, selective and incomplete as it was, when the Warren Commission in January, 1964, faced the terrible possibility that Lee Harvey Oswald was an intelligence operative - and the even more terrible prospect of having to ask J. Edgar Hoover if it were true.

The Warren Commission's version of the "Mauser" story is that Seymour Weitzman only glanced at the weapon and mistook it for a Mauser; according to the *Report*, Lieutenant Day did recognize it for what it was and "correctly" identified it. That version of the discovery and identification of the alleged murder weapon, is, of course, untrue. Then what are we to make of Commissioner Ford's version in *Life* magazine? It will do no good to cite its absence from the *Report*, the twenty-six volumes, the documents declassified since the publication of the *Report*, or the mountains of Commission material available at the National Archives: if the story is not in the Commission's public record, that fact does not prove the story untrue. Ford himself supplied support for the latter statement when he used the previously unknown and classified Executive Sessions documents in his own book. The dramatic phrase "facing an immediate deadline" is, of course, suspicious: after a president is murdered, every moment is "an immediate deadline." But could Seymour Weitzman, or one of the other officers, have emerged from the Depository and been asked the simple question, "What kind of rifle was it, officer?" And not knowing he would stir up a world-wide controversy, could Weitzman (or another officer) have answered, "I think it's a 7.65 Mauser bolt action rifle"? Commissioner Ford pointed out the two types of rifles had only a "slight resemblance" to each other. His report is consistent with Weitzman's story, and the local and national

news media could have added "German-made Army rifle" on their own as further information. Ford did nearly the same thing in his *Life* reporting: "the rifle was a Mauser, which is made in Germany." Just as in *Portrait of the Assassin*, selection and suppression seem to be operating; but the story, in essence, may be true.

True or not, the story provokes a pressing question: why did Warren Commissioner Ford feel it necessary to give still another version of the birth of the Mauser "rumor"? Why did just that part of the Commission's case need still more bolstering? Why were Weitzman's affidavit and his report to the F.B.I. so threatening?

Could the excessive and sometimes incoherent responses to Weitzman's "Mauser" stimulus be important clues to the unraveling of the Kennedy assassination mystery? Could another clue be Hoover's initial stress on the alleged murder weapon as a *Riva-modified* rifle - until his firearms expert testified before the Commission? Could the most important be the contradiction in the F.B.I. identifying a rifle with markings allowing it to be traced back to Riva, whose job it was to remove those markings? In effect, the halves of the contradiction appear on either side of F.B.I.-expert Frazier's testimony. Was Weitzman sacrificed, not because he identified the rifle he found - but because he could not identify the rifle? We know of at least seven specific details which Weitzman gave the F.B.I.; we know the details he gave in his November 23rd affidavit. Could a seasoned law officer, holding a degree in engineering with sporting goods sales experience, have failed to see the markings F.B.I. Agent Frazier swore to the Commission identified the alleged assassin's rifle? Did Weitzman describe an unfamiliar weapon, the apparent caliber not unlike the 30.06 or the German Mauser which in the early 1960s sold well in the Dallas area? Could Weitzman's Sheriff's Office report and his more detailed description to the F.B.I. have been of a weapon which, for example, showed no manufacturer's name?

It seems stubborn of retired Dallas Police Chief Curry to write, six years after the assassination, with the *Warren Report* available, that the alleged assassination rifle "had no manufacturer's name." In Appendix XII, the Report answers what it calls "Speculations" with "Commission findings." Some of the "speculations" turn out to be statements of fact standing on their heads; others, what seem to be manufactured rumors. The whole riddled edifice of the Commission's case sways in the wind of these "speculations." One in particular is relevant to this discussion:

Speculation:

The name of the rifle used in the assassination appears on the rifle. Therefore, the searchers who found the rifle on the sixth floor...should have been able to identify it correctly by name.

Commission finding:

*An examination of the rifle does not reveal any manufacturer's name.* An inscription on the rifle shows that it was made in Italy. (italics added)

It is a surprising statement, because, according to Commissioner Ford, at least two months were taken up in writing the Report, because we learn from other sources the Report was drafted, re-drafted, written and re-written, and because this interesting piece of news was printed in one of the most important sections of the report. Why were the writers of the Report answering a largely non-existent rumor? Were they using the Dallas Police Department's file, including what we know of Lieutenant Day's description? Were they using Officer Dhority's report? Were they relying on Seymour Weitzman's F.B.I. description? Were they facing the stubbornness of the Dallas Police Department which surfaced in Chief's Curry's curious description of the alleged murder weapon? Whatever the source of this seeming contradiction of the Commission's own key rifle witness, F.B.I. firearms expert Robert Frazier ("...the actual identification was of the manufacturer's name appearing on the barrel..."), I think we are at least entitled to suspect that Seymour Weitzman became *persona non grata*, not because he was the source of a "Mauser" speculation, but because the rifle he found could not be easily traced.

Neither Boone, nor Mooney, nor Fritz, nor Day, nor Curry identified the manufacturer's name. Was it because it wasn't there? Seymour Weitzman would then have become a convenient scapegoat, with the cover-up concentrating on his "7.65 Mauser bolt action" description. The Report itself contradicted the Commission's own F.B.I. witness: "An examination of the rifle does not reveal any manufacturer's name." Why?

The answer might be found in a pattern the five missing rifle descriptions make: all five have *direct or indirect links to the Bureau*. Both the strongest and weakest factor in the Commission's case - that Lee Harvey Oswald used the name "A. Hidell" to order a traceable rifle from Klein's of Chicago which was subsequently found at the Depository and then identified by the F.B.I. - was the rifle's traceability. The importance of F.B.I. agent Frazier's erroneous identification



cannot be minimized. Weitzman's detailed description was given to the F.B.I., and it is missing; Day's oral description was given to F.B.I. agent Odum, and it is missing; F.B.I. Agent Odum's aired description was sent to the F.B.I., and it is missing; Day's dictated description, we would assume, is identical to his Odum/F.B.I. description, and it is missing; and Dhority's identification would be identical, we assume, to Day's F.B.I. description, and it is missing.

In whose interest were the five rifle reports not included in the Warren Commission's public documents? Two of the missing rifle descriptions were given to the F.B.I.; two were duplicates of reports given the F.B.I.; and one was itself the F.B.I. transmission of a description.

Frazier's 40.2-inch Mannlicher-Carcano, was, according to the F.B.I., the ballistic key to the assassination: CE 399 was traceable to the rifle Frazier examined. Frazier's 40.2-inch Carcano, with its superfluity of letters and digits, was, according to the F.B.I., traceable to Klein's of Chicago. Each of these crucial pieces of evidence smells of frame-up; one of them, if proven fraudulent, would be enough to establish that Oswald was framed. And every full photograph of the Commission's rifle denied F.B.I. Agent Frazier's description. The Commission's rifle was no more than 40 inches long.

Postal Inspector Harry Holmes, Dallas F.B.I. informant T-7, helpfully purchased the November, 1963, issue of *Field and Stream* and brought it to the Warren Commission when he testified. Holmes, it seems, had been trying to "locate this gun [the alleged assassin's rifle] to identify it, and I did." Having ignored the *American Rifleman*, from which Oswald (as "A. Hidell") was supposed to have ordered a Carcano, the Commission received into evidence Holmes' *Field and Stream* advertisement, marking it "Holmes Deposition Exhibit 2." His gesture suggested that as an F.B.I. informant, whether his Bureau employees agreed with him or not, Holmes felt the Commission's rifle evidence against Lee Harvey Oswald needed bolstering.

Weitzman's rifle description was dangerous. Making Weitzman the sole source of the "Mauser" story, and suppressing all the associated descriptions, would be protection against his description. Five dangerous descriptions were reasons enough for the distortion or suppression of the rifle evidence. But in the days just following the Kennedy assassination, another description was circulating, one possibly more dangerous than the other five combined.

The Ministry of Defense in Italy had, for six years, been selling off surplus Mannlicher-Carcanos by the hundreds of thousands. Some, like the weapons purchased by Adam Consolidated and reconditioned by Luciano Riva in Storo, arrived in the United States in reasonably good condition; others, like those bought by International Arms of Canada, were no better than scrap metal and kindling wood. Still, the weapons moved out of the damp storage spaces or government warehouses in which they had gathered dust, and cobwebs, and rust - and some foreign money moved in. But the Ministry was concerned about the flow of arms from Europe to America; in Europe, gun control was the rule; in America, one could become a weapons dealer with the payment of a \$1.00 fee to the American Treasury Department and registration with the State Department. After those two steps, one could import foreign rifles with little or no restriction and offer them for sale through the United States mail. Members of the American Congress were equally concerned. Still, for the Ministry of Defense in Italy, there was some comfort: the guns were moving out.

November 22nd, 1963, 12:30 p.m. (C.S.T.), Dallas: a classic crossfire laced the hot noon air of Dealey Plaza, and in seconds the President of the United States was dying, probably dead, cut down by anonymous snipers from hidden places. About twenty-four hours later, the reports of conspiracy, multiple arrests, and British, Japanese, and German weapons found on the scene, were quieted, and across Europe another story moved quickly, eventually accompanied by pictures. An American law officer carrying a rifle from a building; reports of a young Communist arrested for the murder of a police officer, and then charged with the assassination of the President. And more pictures: an American law officer holding a terrifyingly familiar rifle above his head so that its image could be spread around the world.

Some of the earlier descriptions seemed to be confused. For the Italian Minister of Defense, even his own Italian press was not a reliable source. But inaccurate or not, both the foreign press and the Italian newspapers and radio had settled on one nationality and one type of rifle: an Italian Mannlicher-Carcano. Word probably went out over a safe line from the Italian Ministry of Defense in Rome: Defense Minister Giulio Andreotti requested the Italian Armed Forces Intelligence Service for an up-to-date report on the rifle allegedly used in the Kennedy assassination. On November 28th, 1963, S.I.F.A.R. sent the report to Minister Andreotti; it contained thirty paragraphs. An English translation of the last paragraph reads:

30. It is suggested that you may desire to pass copies of this report to the American Embassy. A copy has been made available to the F.B.I. representative here [in Rome] for his information and with advice that it has been forwarded to Washington.

But something else happened: officially or unofficially, the Italian secret report, shared with the American F.B.I. in Rome, came into the hands of the American Central Intelligence Agency. The Italian S.I.F.A.R. document was quickly translated and dispatched to C.I.A. headquarters with the following sentences preceding the translated text:

Report prepared by Italian Service for Defense Minister Giulio Andreotti concerning the type rifle allegedly used by Lee Oswald in the assassination of President Kennedy [.]

Shortly after the assassination...Defense Minister Andreotti requested the Italian Service to furnish him a report covering the characteristics and possible origin of the rifle allegedly used in the assassination of President Kennedy. This report was prepared for Giulio Andreotti and forwarded to Washington. We have been unable from our source to ascertain the exact reason Andreotti requested this report or what, if any, disposition he made of it. Set out below is a translation of the report in question-

The S.I.F.A.R. report to the Defense Minister, dated November 28th, 1963, followed.

Eighteen of the thirty paragraphs recounted the history of Mannlicher-Carcano and its post-World War II sales to Canadian and American companies. The description of the Carcano as received from America was, it said, in error, and the S.I.F.A.R. report reviewed briefly the accumulation of borrowed characteristics which ultimately made up the basic model 91. It was pointed out that the 91 came in two calibers, 6.5 and 7.35, and that by 1958 all the various types of the 91 Carcano, 6.5 and 7.35 mm., "were no longer being issued" and had been "declared obsolete." Both the Italian Army and the Air Force had agreed to dispose of the Mannlicher-Carcanos jointly through competitive bidding; the Navy acted independently of the Army-Air Force plan. The rest of the story which S.I.F.A.R. told I have already reported in earlier chapters.

Aside from its historical survey, the document reviewed Italian press reports on the alleged assassination weapon. *L'Unita*, for example, to be describing a 6.5 mm. model 91/41 Carcano, the Italian service weapon with the modified sight system and shortened barrel, as the alleged assassin's rifle.

What may have been most startling and disturbing to American intelligence figures for a variety of reasons was the second paragraph: "The weapon which appears to have been employed in this criminal attack is a model 91 rifle, 7.35 caliber, 1938 modification." And the follow-up, seven paragraphs later, this time citing American press pictures printed in Italy: "The photographs from American sources appearing in the Italian press show...a 7.35 caliber model 91 as modified in 1938." What must the F.B.I. have thought after receiving its copy of the S.I.F.A.R. report? The "K 1" rifle had been to Washington on November 23rd, and, according to J. Edgar Hoover, had been returned after lab analysis to Dallas that same day. On the 26th, the F.B.I. asked for the assassination evidence again; and again, the Dallas police shipped the various parts of their murder puzzle to the F.B.I. in Washington.

By November 28th, 1963, both the Dallas Police Crime Scene Section headed by Lieutenant Day and the F.B.I. laboratory in Washington had gone over the alleged weapon. It was, they all said, a 6.5 mm. Italian carbine: that much they could agree upon. The earlier reports of British, Japanese, and German rifles were in error: one rifle, one nationality, one caliber: an Italian Mannlicher-Carcano 6.5 mm. rifle. Didn't the moment seem absolutely right for an important announcement? If the rifle allegedly discovered by Weitzman and Boone had a Mauser-type bolt action, and if it looked like an American caliber 30.06 or a foreign 7.65-mm., why not simply say so?

Why not tell the truth before the truth no longer would be believed? By November 29th, 1963, at the latest, the American Embassy would have transmitted either the original Italian S.I.F.A.R. report or an authorized translation to the Secretary of State in Washington. A copy would have then been transmitted, probably, to the Secret Service, redundantly to the F.B.I., and possibly to the C.I.A. (again, redundantly). Since the investigation was being handled on the Federal level primarily, though not exclusively, by the F.B.I. in Washington and Dallas, and by the Secret Service, principally by its Protective Research Division, either agency or both could have relied on the November 28th S.I.F.A.R. document to clarify and make precise the identification of the alleged assassination rifle. The Italian document said that the "weapon which appears to have been employed...is a...7.35..., 1938 modification," and that American photographs showed a model 91/38 7.35-mm. in appearance. The one problem the F.B.I. might have foreseen was how it would explain the rifle it had examined had not been re-bored or "re-barreled"; remember, the rifle that Frazier examined had had its 7.35-mm caliber barrel *replaced* by a 6.5-mm. caliber barrel. That fact would increase suspicion of a second rifle or

mean the F.B.I. would have to say that Dallas law officers looked at the muzzle of a 6.5 mm. and mistook it for a 7.35 - or 7.65; but a one millimeter mistake is not so bad. The explanation would not have been difficult to phrase. Didn't anyone in Washington or Dallas read the newspapers? For almost a week, local and national papers remained confused about the precise identity of the rifle. What could have motivated the Dallas Police, the F.B.I., the Secret Service, and even the C.I.A. (technically, it was none of its business: the murder of the President was a domestic assassination) to keep silent through the thunder of misinformation?

The S.I.F.A.R. document changed nothing, just complicated matters. The five missing rifle descriptions were, it seems, no better off for the "Italian Service" having been so obliging. Whatever was threatening about the Weitzman description might, in fact, have been aggravated by the Andreotti report from Italy. S.I.F.A.R. called attention to mistaken American press identifications of the alleged murder weapon: dangerous. S.I.F.A.R. reported the rifle in *appearance* was a 7.35 - too close to Weitzman's 7.65: dangerous. And something else about the document may have sent shivers through the American intelligence community - paragraphs 12. and 19.:

...the Italian military authorities decided to eliminate all the "model 91s" 6.5 and 7.35 calibers....

The weapons...sold to the Adam Company [were] ...serviceable 6.5 rifles...[and] unserviceable 6.5 rifles...[:] serviceable 7.35 rifles...[and] unserviceable 7.35 rifles.

A document withheld from the American people for thirteen years reported that the American arms company which sold Mannlicher-Carcanos through its distributing company, Crescent Arms, had imported both 6.5 and 7.35 caliber rifles from Italy. God forbid that Crescent had sold any 7.35-mm. caliber rifles to Klein's. Didn't 7.35-mm. Carcanos look like 6.5-mm. Carcanos...or was it the other way around?

No, the S.I.F.A.R. document would not have been a blessing to the Bureau. With its three paragraphs on the problems of international gun traffic, the document was probably not too welcome around the State Department, which was responsible for enforcement of the Munitions Control Act; and those same three paragraphs would not have made the S.I.F.A.R. document required public reading at the Treasury Department, whose Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Division was also interested in arms traffic in the United States, especially across its sometime-porous Canadian and Mexican borders. Which Federal department or agency wanted to be responsible for releasing even a hint of the S.I.F.A.R. document, and stand accused, because of its laxity, of allowing the rifle which killed the President to have slipped into the country?

The S.I.F.A.R. report to Defense Minister Giulio Andreotti was released by the C.I.A. in 1976 to Kennedy researchers without comment from the Agency. First press reports, in the American weekly tabloids, called it a "C.I.A." document - but the tabloid reporters were not aware, it seems, that it was a C.I.A. teletype dispatch, possibly from Europe, that it was a report inside a dispatch, and that the report had not been written by the C.I.A. but by a foreign intelligence service. Those press reports also printed portions of the report-inside-a-document with the C.I.A. deletions, making no attempt to reconstruct the missing portions. The notes to this chapter give both the clues to the now-obvious fact that the body of the document is an official Italian intelligence report, and the fact that it is a translation by a second intelligence body, the Agency. The notes also describe the process by which the suppressed portions of the C.I.A. dispatch/S.I.F.A.R. report were recovered.

With their presentation here, those deleted words and phrases as well as the identification of the document as a S.I.F.A.R. report prepared for Minister Andreotti, translated and dispatched (officially or not) by the C.I.A., are published for the first time.

The S.I.F.A.R./Andreotti report constituted a *sixth* rifle report associated with the F.B.I. which was withheld from the public record of the Kennedy assassination. The least suspicious reason for its being withheld by the C.I.A. is the familiar one given by all the investigative arms of the Warren Commission for suppressing evidence: the document in question involved "another agency" - a convenient cover under which the whole assassination conspiracy could hide quite comfortably. For the S.I.F.A.R./Andreotti report, the C.I.A. had two services: the Italian Armed Forces Intelligence Service and the Bureau. An additional reason for not releasing the document lends weight to the argument that more was to be gained by disclosure than further suppression: Foreign Defense Minister Andreotti had become Premier of Italy - and held that office at least through 1976, when the document was released. If the Agency obtained its copy of the Andreotti report unofficially, the fact that it had been transmitted covertly through a C.I.A. informant would be reason enough to withhold the document as long as possible. That reason would be stronger than the potential leverage against the F.B.I. and the Warren Commission staff the information in the document presented: until, that is, it became more important to drop the other shoe on the Bureau or the (defunct) Commission's reputation. Since (1) the document was "sanitized" before its release in 1976, with the deletion of all names and phrases directly linking it to the Italian Service, and (2) the document was released in 1976 when heavy pressure was being brought against the F.B.I. both inside the Carter administration and from without to find scapegoats

in the Bureau for its past abuses of civil rights and civil liberties, one can only assume that the C.I.A. had now dropped the other shoe. The disclosure of the document (with deletions) accomplished two ends: directing attention away from the fact that it was an *Italian* document which an unidentified source brought to the C.I.A. (officially or not), and directing attention away from the fact that if the F.B.I. knew something about the alleged assassination weapon which the Bureau had not made public, the C.I.A. knew and had not done so too. Until this moment, those ends had succeeded.

The F.B.I. was faced with another dangerous rifle report after November 28th, 1963. Whether J. Edgar Hoover knew the C.I.A. possessed a copy, the text made it obvious that Andreotti had sent a copy to the American Embassy in Rome, and from there the Ambassador would have sent a copy to the Secretary of State in Washington. No matter how secure this transmission line was supposed to be, Hoover must have known that copies would be circulated to the Treasury Department, and probably to the C.I.A., possibly even to the Dallas Police and Dallas County Sheriff's office, whether he shared his copy (sent from Rome) or not. Other S.I.F.A.R. material was in circulation: the F.B.I. had received a classified rifle report from the Italian Service on March 16th, 1964, which was not declassified until after F.B.I. agent Robert Frazier had presented his incorrect information to the Commission. Whether more S.I.F.A.R. reports were sent to Washington before or after March 16th is not yet known. For the F.B.I., the November 28th, 1963, S.I.F.A.R. analysis for Defense Minister Giulio Andreotti, a copy of which was given the F.B.I. representative in Rome, was enough. A sixth rifle report had to be dealt with. One way it was dealt with it was to withhold the Andreotti document from the Kennedy assassination public record.

I have already suggested the C.I.A.'s probable reasons for concern and suppression of the Andreotti report. The C.I.A.'s dispatch text suggests the Italian document was obtained covertly, but not necessarily from within the Italian Service or the Ministry of Defense. Two other sources are apparent for the C.I.A. "source" (who was not able "to ascertain the exact reason Andreotti requested" the S.I.F.A.R. analysis): the American Embassy and the F.B.I. in Rome. It is no secret that overseas C.I.A. agents operate as cultural, press, or military attaches within the American embassies, many of them known to the Ambassador (the legal attache' is usually, though not always, the home base of the F.B.I.). It is less well known that the Agency has both agents and associates in the F.B.I. (though it has been suspected), some of whom have been operating, it has been suggested, under deep cover within the Bureau throughout their careers as F.B.I. agents. Other Bureau agents, like

Bardwell Odum and James Hosty, seem to have had close relations with the Agency, whether by accident, Bureau assignment, or personal choice. Still others, like former F.B.I. agents Guy Banister and Robert Maheu, have worked for the C.I.A. or for C.I.A.-front organizations after they have left the F.B.I., keeping alive their close ties to both active and former Bureau agents. If the C.I.A. had a friend at the American Embassy or in the F.B.I. office in Rome, the Agency would naturally wish to protect that confidential "source."

For the F.B.I., the S.I.F.A.R. document, if publicized, would have boosted the Weitzman (Boone/Fritz) "7.65" controversy; talk of *Italians* recognizing a 7.35-mm. Carcano being displayed in Dallas as the weapon and published in the European press would have given legitimacy to the "second" or "substitute" rifle theories gaining press coverage both overseas and in the United States. If in December, 1963, Hoover might have decided to release the S.I.F.A.R. materials, the charges brought against the dead Lee Harvey Oswald by the group around Marina Oswald must have stopped the F.B.I. Director in his tracks. Oswald was supposed to have attempted to kill retired General Edwin Walker. In December, Dallas Special Agent in Charge Gordon Shanklin had the alleged Walker bullet (Q 188) sent to the F.B.I. lab in Washington; he asked for a spectrographic analysis. The report came back: the Walker bullet did not match the alleged Kennedy/Connally ballistic materials. Since the Dallas police had initially reported the Walker slug to be a steal-jacketed "30.06," since it was ballistically impossible to match the Walker bullet (mangled and fragmented) to the alleged assassin's weapon, and since the December F.B.I. spectrographic report dissociated the Walker bullet from the Kennedy/Connally ballistic evidence, the publicizing of the Walker evidence would have tended to establish Oswald's innocence; the release of the S.I.F.A.R. materials in December would have added to that presumption of innocence, at least in the alleged Walker attack. An American 30.06 is an approximate match for a *European 7.35 or 7.65 millimeter round*. The Walker-S.I.F.A.R. materials, as of December 1963, would have suggested that some unknown person or persons fired a 7.35-mm or 7.65-mm. rifle at General Edwin Walker in April, 1963. Either Lee Harvey Oswald had something to do with that attack, but another rifle was used, and several possible shooters might have been involved (as eyewitnesses indeed reported), or Lee Harvey Oswald had nothing to do with the Walker attack, which could be traced to an American 30.06/or European 7.35 - or 7.65-mm. caliber rifle. Neither the Walker spectrographic report nor the Italian rifle material saw daylight in December, 1963. The F.B.I.'s case against Oswald would have been severely damaged. Whether for the latter reason, or another, the F.B.I. spectrographic report was suppressed until 1975, the S.I.F.A.R. report until 1976.



In 1976, a former C.I.A. operative published material which suggested possibly stronger reasons for the suppression of the Walker spectrographic report and the S.I.F.A.R. rifle analysis, though he did not refer to either. Robert D. Morrow, in a book called *Betrayal*, argued that a conspiracy group centered primarily in New Orleans, consisting of C.I.A.- and F.B.I.-associated individuals (as well as Syndicate, mercenary, and anti-Castro Cuban figures), conspired to kill John F. Kennedy, and did so on November 22nd, 1963. The charges, of course, were not new. Not only did Jim Garrison present the scenario years earlier; Morrow's material seemed to borrow heavily both from published and unpublished Garrison sources. Only the greater emphasis on crime figures really distinguished Morrow's revelations from Garrison's. But the one important "Mafia" figure in Morrow's book is Jack Ruby, who was supposed to be an employee of the C.I.A., according to Morrow. Morrow's cast of characters played their *Betrayal* parts largely under fictional names supplied by Morrow (nearly all of the characters discussed by Morrow are identified by their actual names in the end notes). What is important in the Morrow book material to this discussion are two passages. Morrow alleged that Guy Banister transmitted information to Clay Shaw about Lee Harvey Oswald's "6.5 Mannlicher." Morrow contended that Banister suggested the Banister-Shaw assassination "teams" be equipped with the "more accurate 7.35," using fragmentation rounds so that the actual caliber would be less easy to identify, and that a pre-fired 6.5-mm. round from the "Oswald" rifle be planted. According to Morrow, Clay Shaw liked the Banister proposal, and was to ask his C.I.A. contact for 7.35-mm. Mannlicher-Carcanos, giving as his reason Shaw's planned assassination of Juan Bosch by a group of "exiles." The second relevant Morrow passage followed closely on the first. "Ross Allen" (whose real identity I have not yet been able to uncover) and Robert Morrow were together when, according to Morrow, C.I.A. officer Tracy Barnes called him, saying that Clay Shaw had requested 7.35-mm. Carcanos be sent to him. Morrow agreed to purchase the Carcanos and to cause a delivery to be made to Banister and Shaw. Morrow allegedly found the Carcanos available at "Sunny's Surplus Store" in Towson, Maryland, near Morrow's home in Roseland, and in two trips he bought four of the "sniper" rifles. Finding one of the rifles had a minor defect, according to Morrow, the former Agency employee allegedly gave the other three to a "courier" who was supposed to deliver them to Banister and Shaw in New Orleans. According to Morrow, it was Jack Ruby who uncovered the "fact" that Lee Harvey Oswald had bought a 6.5-mm. rifle through the mail, using his C.I.A. cover name, "Hidell."

If any part of the Morrow story was true, especially the purchasing of 7.35-mm. Mannlicher-Carcanos which were sent to C.I.A. employees or former C.I.A. employees for an assassination attempt, then the disclosure of such a plot

could be damaging to the C.I.A. - or to present or former associates of the Agency. Until corroboration of Morrow's story is publicly recorded, his charges, though provocative, must be viewed skeptically. But if Morrow's rifle story was supportable, what could back it up, and who would it hurt? The weekly tabloids and Morrow's own book and House Select Committee submission supplied part of the answer.

In July, 1977, the S.I.F.A.R. document was aired in the *National Examiner*. However, the suppliers of the document and the unnamed author of the article were not aware of the dispatch/report's actual identification or significance. The "second rifle" theory was prominently featured, unfortunately in a sensationalized distortion of the document's contents: "New evidence on slaying," the top headline announced; below that, inch-high capital letters proclaimed "JFK SECOND RIFLE" The article was riddled with errors, omissions, and misprints; for example: the "CIA report" was supposed to be dated "November 28, 1973." Later it was called a "CIA teletype," which was probably the method by which the C.I.A. transmitted the S.I.F.A.R. report of November 28th, 1963, but the article attributed the S.I.F.A.R. statements to the Agency. Why the C.I.A. should translate its own document (which for some reason was prepared for some unnamed "Defense Minister") the suppliers of the document and the writer of the *Examiner* article did not tell their readers. One sentence of the article was especially important for our discussion; we were told that members of the "Dallas police department" identified the alleged murder weapon as a "German Mauser." No mention of Seymour Weitzman and the Dallas County Sheriff's Office; no indication that "German" was not in the Weitzman affidavit of November 23rd, 1963. The *Examiner* article hinted that everyone might be right; that John Kennedy was not shot from a "single" weapon "fired" by "Lee Harvey Oswald"; that the official rifle "discrepancy" might not have been an "error" made by unnamed F.B.I. "technical experts." Rather, both the F.B.I. and the C.I.A. may have been correct: two rifles were "used" in the assassination (one would have thought the evidence already proved that fact). The suppliers of the material and the writer of the *Examiner* article did not tell us why the 7.35-mm. rifle was photographed in America while a Dallas policeman held it up in the air so that the whole conspiracy could be uncovered.

All the evidence presently available cries out Lee Harvey Oswald's innocence. For so little publicity, why even hint at Oswald's possible involvement? The ballistic evidence presented by the F.B.I. only linked a 6.5-mm. rifle in the Bureau's temporary possession with a bullet (CE 399) allegedly found at Parkland Memorial Hospital. To admit anything else in a national tabloid is to admit too much. But the possible misuse of important intelligence documents should not obscure the fact that

the testimony of F.B.I. agent Robert Frazier directly contradicted the published evidence of the Warren Commission itself. The F.B.I. did not prove its case against Lee Harvey Oswald.



## **CHAPTER 6**

### **"NOW WE DO NOT HAVE TO FEAR A MAN WITH A THE RIFLE"**

My original intention for this chapter was to (1) summarize the so-called "rifle" evidence against Lee Harvey Oswald - and again refute it; (2) review the "inconclusive" paraffin tests - which actually supported the presumption of Oswald's innocence; (3) examine his alleged presence at the so-called "sniper's nest" - which was established neither by reputable eye-witness testimony nor by accurate chronology; (4) present his Marine Corps "marksmanship" - which effectively argued against Oswald's being able to kill the president with any weapon on November 22nd, 1963; (5) describe the chambering marks on the shells - clearly proving the three spent shells allegedly found at the Depository had been loaded at least once (and possibly a number of times) in a rifle other than the Mannlicher-Carcano in the F.B.I.'s possession; (6) summarize the ballistic and spectrographic evidence - clearly indicating that only CE 399 could be linked without question to the rifle in the F.B.I.'s possession (firearms experts other than F.B.I. agent Frazier were asked to compare rounds allegedly fired from the F.B.I. rifle to CE 399, not to compare fired rounds to the rifle itself) - and restate that CE 399, indisputably a plant at Parkland Memorial Hospital, was proof only of a conspiracy to frame Lee Harvey Oswald; and (7) outline the reasons, therefore, for the conspirators' choosing Oswald as the patsy: his career in the Marines, his time in the Soviet Union, then back in Dallas, in New Orleans, allegedly in Mexico City, and again in Dallas. Interfaced with this chronology, I had planned a review of the evidence linking Oswald to American intelligence, to the C.I.A.-Syndicate-supported mercenaries, and to the anti-Castro Cuban complex which would document the argument for Oswald as an employee of several branches of the American government (not unlike Sara Moore, for example). But I could not complete it; to focus again on that sad young man was a disservice to his memory. It was a tragic experience to plan the material and see it take shape: the contradictions, the confusions, the complexities; for example, the many "Oswalds" with their many heights and mystifying changes in physical characteristics, including the young man who went to the Soviet Union with his big-city, Northern-American, Southwestern-toned dialect intact and while in Russia responded to an interviewer (herself suspected of being a government employee) with a *Southern drawl*.

Whatever Lee Harvey Oswald's "real" political or philosophical orientation had been, he was clearly the quiet eye of the storm which blew through Texas - and the United States - on November 22nd, 1963.

On September 28th, 1964, the *Dallas Morning News* summarized the evidence against Oswald "listed in the Warren Commission report" in the assassination of John F. Kennedy. It is a sorry collection: (1) the Mannlicher-Carcano; (2) CE 399 and certain fragments recovered from the limousine; (3) three spent shells; (4) fingerprints found on cartons of books which Oswald had handled; (5) "latent" fingerprints from the Carcano and a paper bag (evidence which the F.B.I. could never corroborate); (6) cotton particles found "in the stock of the rifle which matched those from Oswald's shirt or one *identical to it*" (*italics added*); (7) the testimony of Howard L. Brennan.

Had Lee Harvey Oswald lived and stood trial, the presiding judge would have granted a defense motion to dismiss the charge of murder against him and rebuked the prosecution for its shoddy performance.

Had Lee Harvey Oswald lived.

## CHAPTER 7

### **Z-313: THE PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE OF CONSPIRACY IN THE J.F.K. ASSASSINATION**

Abraham Zapruder's now-famous less-than-thirty seconds (486 frames) of film is the fundamental photographic proof of a conspiracy in the murder of John F. Kennedy in Dealey Plaza at 12:31 C.S.T., on November 22nd, 1963. The film is an 8-mm. color strip running a total of 27 seconds, taken with a new 8-mm. Bell and Howell movie camera running at 18.3 frames per second. Any single frame of the film, therefore, occurs in  $1/18.3$  of a second. The Presidential limousine coming down Elm St. was moving at an average speed of 11 miles per hour and traveled a total distance of 137 ft. As few as four and as many as ten frames are missing from or damaged in the print of the Zapruder film now in circulation. The frame, limousine, and rifle figures given here are accurate. The recovery or replacement of the damaged or missing frames would alter these calculations slightly, though not materially. F.B.I. agent Lyndal L. Shaneyfelt numbered the Zapruder frames for the Warren Commission, and it is the Shaneyfelt numbering system which has been adopted as the analytic convention in discussing the movie. For example, "Z-313" = "Z" for Zapruder frame (from 1 through 486) and "313" for the 313th frame.

For any hit (or missed shot) the difference between the instant of firing and the instant of impact would be at least one frame, at most two frames, or a  $1/18.3$ - to  $2/18.3$ -of-a-second interval between firing and impact. If the President were hit at Z-313 (as he was), then the impacting shot (or shots) would have been fired at Z-311 or Z-312. Most discussions of the Zapruder film collapse the moment of firing and impact, but evidence for a conspiracy may be finally a matter of milliseconds. Each *impact* citation, then, should be read as a one-to-two-frame delayed *firing* citation.

The frame speed is a constant (18.3 frames per second); the limousine speed, however, is a variable. Though the car averages about 11 m.p.h., at various Z frames it begins to accelerate or begins to decelerate, and between various pairs of Z frames it is either accelerating or decelerating. Between Z-160 and Z-185 (25 frames), it accelerates from 2 to 17 m.p.h. (its greatest acceleration before the fatal head wounding). Between Z-185 and Z-210 (25 frames), it decelerates from a "top" speed of 17 m.p.h. to 8 1/4 m.p.h. (about .36 m.p.h. per frame).

This acceleration/deceleration pattern is important for at least two reasons: (1) the location of the limousine on Elm St. relative to any specific frame of the film is essential to the analysis of the number of shots, the number of hits (and misses), and the various firing trajectories; (2) the eye-witness testimony: in many instances, witnesses' perception of the duration of the crucial moments of the assassination was distorted from a few seconds to many minutes. An impressive number of witnesses, however, perceived the limousine as stopping in the middle of the firing sequence, but the Z film shows it never stopped. What it does reveal is an acceleration of 15 m.p.h. in 25 frames (17/18.3 of a second) from Z-160 to Z-185, and then a sudden deceleration for 23 frames (16/18.3 of a second) from Z-185 to Z-208. I believe it is this abrupt slowing of the Presidential car (from 17 m.p.h. to 8 m.p.h.) in less than two seconds which was perceived by the witnesses as a stopping.

From Z-208 to Z-215, the limousine accelerates to 12 1/2 m.p.h. and drops to 11 m.p.h. at Z-220. From Z-220 to Z-280, the limousine moves between 13 m.p.h. and 9 m.p.h. (more nearly approximating the "11 m.p.h." average usually cited in accounts of the assassination). Z-215 through Z-280, the car accelerates and decelerates four times. From Z-280 through Z-313 (33 frames or 1.79 seconds), the car seems to be maintaining a steady pace of approximately 11 m.p.h., almost coasting down the 3-degree declination of Elm St. toward the underpass. At frame 367, Secret Service agent Clint Hill reached the back of the limousine, and the car had begun its post-firing (tremendously high) acceleration which it maintained to Parkland Memorial Hospital.

If the Warren Commission analysis is accurate, and if its assumed first shot was heard by the limousine's occupants at approximately Z-210, then the car seems to respond to its driver by accelerating from about 9 m.p.h. to 13 m.p.h. (in 6/18.3 of a second), then dropping into its 11-m.p.h.-pattern (with short accelerations and decelerations) through the Warren Commission's assumed second shot, and maintaining its 11 m.p.h. "speed" through Z-313: almost six seconds of virtual coasting after the first shot. The limousine holds its "average" speed through Z-313,



when the President's head explodes. Only when Mrs. Kennedy climbs onto the car's trunk at Z-345 is the car beginning to accelerate - but not sufficiently to lose Clint Hill, who has jumped off the Secret Service car behind, run on foot the distance between the two cars, and has climbed on at Z-367, approximately three seconds after the Kennedy head wounding. From Z-210 to Z-367 is about nine seconds - and only at Z-367 is the limousine picking up speed (Z-1 through Z-367 is twenty seconds).

According to the Warren Commission:

1. From the farthest southeastern window of the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository Building, using a 6.5 Italian Mannlicher-Carcano bolt-action rifle now allegedly in the National Archives, the alleged assassin fired his *first* shot between Z-210 and Z-224 (14 to 15 frames: that is, less than a second of spread).

2. From the same location and with the same rifle, the alleged assassin fired his *second* shot, which was a miss, hitting a curb, chipping concrete and wounding a spectator.

3. From the same location and with the same rifle, the alleged assassin fired his *third* shot, inflicting the fatal head wound at Z-313. Though the Warren Commission allows itself any of three possible sequences (hit-hit-miss, hit-miss-hit, and miss-hit-hit), the *only* sequence which fits its own argument is the *hit-miss-hit* sequence from Z-210/224 through Z-313.

Together with the Zapruder film, a group of evidential moments and objects creates a series of "constraints." These constraints set the parameters of what was possible (and impossible) at the moment of the Kennedy assassination.

#### **The Z-313 Constraint:**

The Kennedy head wounding indisputably and visibly occurs between Z-312 and Z-314. Though this constraint seems the most obvious, it will later bear importantly upon the timing of the "missed shot" and the alleged assassin's "escape."

#### **The Mannlicher-Carcano Constraint:**

According to the F.B.I., the Mannlicher-Carcano cannot be fired (exclusive of sighting and aiming) in less than 2.3 seconds after any first firing (or after any subsequent firing). Since the camera speed is 18.3 frames per second, and since the Mannlicher-Carcano requires at least 2.3 seconds between shots (according to F.B.I. firearms expert Robert Frazier), at least 4.6 seconds are required to get off three shots; a minimum of 42 frames (actually 42.09 frames) of film must separate any two shots fired and therefore any two moments of impact - if Lee Harvey Oswald was the lone assassin and if the Mannlicher-Carcano was used exclusively.

Two shots will take a minimum of 42.09 Z frames; therefore, three shots will take a minimum of 84.18 Z frames. But this 2.3-second minimum constraint was established by F.B.I. agent Frazier for only 25 yards, firing at a stationary target. In fact, after testifying to firing "three shots in 4.6 seconds at 25 yards," Frazier immediately modified his testimony; asked if that was "the 4.6-second time," Frazier responded: "Yes. I would say from 4.8 to 5 seconds, in that area - 4.6 is firing this weapon as fast as the bolt can be operated." (italics added) Asked about modification of the firing time for a moving target, Frazier responded:

*It would have slowed down the shooting. It would have lengthened the time to the extent of allowing the crosshairs to pass over the moving target. (italics added)*

As Mark Lane concluded, F.B.I. firearms expert Frazier estimated that at a distance of 100 yards and firing on a moving target, a would-be assassin would have required between 6.6 to 7.0 seconds for three shots when firing the Carcano the F.B.I. allegedly examined: 3.3 to 3.5 seconds between two shots. No shooter firing the weapon allegedly recovered at the Depository would have been able to fire three shots at the President in the time allowed by Frazier's testimony and hit the President twice.

The 2.3-second firing interval is not only a constraint - it is a Warren Commission fiction.

#### **The Oak Tree (north side of Elm St.) Constraint:**

Kennedy is obscured from the farthest eastern window on the sixth floor of the Depository (the alleged assassin's window, according to the Warren Commission), between Z-166 and Z-209, with the exception of a single frame: Z-186 (Robert Groden says the single frame is Z-188) - 1/18.3 of a second. Kennedy is "visible" from the alleged sniper's nest for only 1/18.3 of a second within only 2.34 seconds between Z-166 and Z-209.

Z-210 is, therefore, according to the Warren Commission, the earliest Z frame for a hit.

#### **The Z-235 Constraint:**

By turning quickly right between Z-235 and Z-240 in reacting to his hit, Connally can no longer be struck from the Depository's sixth floor farthest eastern window. Z-235, therefore, is an important constraint: Connally cannot be hit any later than Z-235 from the alleged assassin's firing site. For the Warren Commission, both Kennedy and Connally must be hit between Z-210 and Z-234, and they must be hit by the same bullet. And the earliest possible Kennedy hit (Z-210) and the latest possible Connally hit (Z-234) are separated by 24 frames - at least 1.3 seconds.

**The F.B.I. Complication:**

The F.B.I.'s assassination report submitted to the Warren Commission argued for three shots from behind and three hits from behind. Though the Bureau did not locate its three separate hits according to Z frames, they would look something like this: the first F.B.I. hit between Z-210 and 224; the second F.B.I. hit between Z-234 and 238; the third F.B.I. hit at Z-313 (the Secret Service report gives the same sequence of shots and hits).

It was the F.B.I. which first argued for a bone or bullet fragment causing Kennedy's front throat wound (based upon some early Parkland Memorial Hospital speculation). The first Kennedy hit (between Z-210 and 224), according to the F.B.I., was the back wound observed by F.B.I. agents both at Dealey Plaza and at the Bethesda autopsy. The first two F.B.I. hits were observed and reported as *separate*: first Kennedy was hit in the back, then Connally was hit in the back. But these two F.B.I. woundings were separated, following the Zapruder film, by as much as 1.5 seconds (and no less than 3/4 of a second): a clearly unacceptable separation for the Warren Commission and its supporters given the combined 42-frame/2.3-second constraints of the Z film and the Mannlicher-Carcano. Both the Warren Commission and its advocates, therefore, rejected the observations and report of the F.B.I. - the Warren Commission's chief investigative instrument. Ultimately, the Warren Commission had to account for an additional shot (one of four shots, if it accepted the F.B.I. scenario) - the missed shot which resulted in the James Tague wounding.

The Warren Commission was, therefore, constrained by its own three-shot hypothesis (and its subsequent "single-bullet" theory) - unless it opted for a conspiracy.

Note: the 1.6-second figure usually found in Kennedy assassination writing derives from the 30-frame spread between Z-210 and Z-240 (the assumed earliest and latest frames for the F.B.I.'s separate Kennedy and Connally hits). Josiah Thompson more accurately states the hit or reaction time interval as "anywhere from three-fourths to one and a half seconds" - from 10 to 30 frames. But if 24 frames separate the earliest possible Kennedy hit and the latest possible Connally hit (Z-210 and Z-234, according to the Commission), then the figure ought to be 1.311 seconds.

### The Single-Bullet Bind

In order to account for all of Kennedy's wounds (except the Z-313 head wounding) and for all of Connally's wounds, the Warren Commission argued that one bullet struck both Kennedy and Connally: probably the first in the Warren Commission's hit-miss-hit sequence. The Commission was constrained by the three spent shells allegedly found on the sixth floor of the Depository by Dallas law authorities. If only three rounds were fired (from the Mannlicher-Carcano), if the third shot hit Kennedy at Z-313, and if the second missed, then the Warren Commission was bound to argue that the remaining round, the first, caused all the wounds (except, remember, the Kennedy fatal head wounding at Z-313). Otherwise, a second rifle had to have been fired at Dealey Plaza, and the lone-assassin theory would have collapsed.

What if four expended shells had been found at the Depository? Would that have helped the Warren Commission? What if the lone assassin had fired four rounds and pocketed one of the spent shells - or thrown it away? One can imagine a Commission staff member struggling with this possibility. Roughly, he would have figured, four shots would have taken 126 Z frames. Starting at Z-234 (the "latest" frame for a Connally wounding), the staff member would have arrived at Z-360 for the head hit. Too late. Starting at Z-210 (the Commission's own "earliest" first-shot frame), he would have arrived at Z-336 for the Kennedy head wounding: too late - try again. The staffer must have felt a thrill of ecstasy when he tried Z-187, added 126 frames, and arrived exactly at Z-313; but then, someone must have reminded him of the assassin's need to sight and aim - not merely work the bolt and pull the trigger, remembering Frazier's modification of his firing time - and, of course, the 1/18.3-second moment which the otherwise obscuring Oak tree afforded. The four-shot possibility would have been discarded. Clearly, four shots would not have helped the Warren Commission.

Working with only three shots, the Warren Commission staffer might have started as late as Z-234 for a combined Kennedy-Connally hit followed by a miss and the Kennedy head shot. But that calculation would have given him Z-318, five frames too late for the fatal head wounding. Eventually he would have tried Z-229 for the single-bullet combined-hit, reaching Z-271 for the missed shot and Z-313 for the head shot. But this seemingly-workable sequence would have destroyed the Warren Commission's own argument: Kennedy was already reacting to a hit at Z-223, six frames earlier than Z-229. Even Warren Commission supporters must agree that Kennedy cannot first react and then be shot. The Warren Commission had to retreat to somewhere between Z-210 and Z-223, arguing that Kennedy and Connally were both hit by the same bullet (conveniently CE 399, allegedly found at

Parkland Memorial Hospital), but that Connally did not respond immediately. *If Kennedy was hit at Z-210, and if Connally was wounded by the same bullet but did not respond until Z-234, then, as I have indicated, 24 frames or 1.3 seconds separate the two hits by the same bullet. Either the bullet hung suspended in the air between Kennedy and Connally for 1.3 seconds, or Connally suffered a nearly mortal chest wound yet did not immediately respond to the terrible impact of a bullet that ripped through his back, shattered a rib, tore through his chest, penetrated his right wrist (breaking his wrist bone), and imbedded itself in his left thigh bone.*

Remember, according to the Warren Commission, Kennedy could not be hit before Z-210 and Connally could not be hit after Z-234. The dilemma was the creation of the Warren Commission itself. If Kennedy could not be hit before Z-210 but was already reacting by 223 (with which Warren critics and supporters both agree), then the Warren Commission had to choose a frame between Z-210 and 223 for the combined Kennedy/Connally hit - the origin of the so-called "single-bullet" theory. The Warren Commission, of course, would have preferred a Kennedy hit frame as late as possible so that Connally's "delayed" reaction would be more credible. But the later the frame for the double hit, the fewer fractions of a second the alleged assassin had to work the bolt, sight, aim, and squeeze off the second shot - the miss which wounded James Tague - and then work the bolt, sight, aim, and squeeze off the fatal Kennedy head wounding.

### **The 103-Frame/5.62-Second Constraint:**

Kennedy is not visible in the Zapruder film from Z-207 through Z-223, when the Presidential car (from Zapruder's point of view) was behind the Stemmons Freeway sign. When the car began to emerge from behind the sign, Kennedy was *already reacting to a hit*. According to the Warren Commission, Kennedy could not have been hit *before Z-210*. Given all the self-imposed constraints of the Warren Commission, its first hit had to occur at Z-210 - *allowing the alleged assassin no more than 103 frames - or 5.62 seconds - to inflict all the wounds on Kennedy and Connally*. It is this 103-frame/5.62-second constraint that becomes the "5.6 seconds" in assassination writing, gaining heavy circulation after the publication of Josiah Thompson's *Six Seconds in Dallas*. The F.B.I. rifle test by agent Robert Frazier established that it was physically impossible to fire the Mannlicher-Carcano more than three times in these 5.6 seconds between the first Kennedy hit at Z-210 (according to the Warren Commission) and the fatal Kennedy head explosion at Z-313. The Warren Commission never stated, however, that 5.6 seconds was the timing of all the shots, but many layman and, unfortunately some Warren

Commission critics (not including Mark Lane), have assumed the 5.6 seconds to be the Warren Commission's figure (smoothed to "six seconds"). Rather, the Warren Report said:

...the three shots were fired in a time period ranging from approximately 4.8 to in excess of 7 seconds.

If either the first or third shots missed, then...[the time interval would be] 7.1 to 7.9 seconds for the three shots.

These statements, of course, clearly contradict the Commission's assertion that the first shot came no earlier than Z-210/224, since (1) the Commission allows itself in one of its firing sequences a miss before Z-210, a hit between Z-210 and 224 (the double hit), and the final hit at Z-313; and (2) the Commission allows itself in another of its firing sequences a double-hit between Z-210 and 224, a hit at Z-313, and a miss sometime after Z-313.

But both these "early" and "late" misses again argue against the Commission's own conclusions, its own evidence, and the available evidence it did not (or chose not to) use. These miss possibilities are at best meaningless - and certainly obfuscations.

#### **The Z-313-Last Shot/90-Second "Escape" Constraint:**

When the Warren Commission allowed itself a miss after Z-313, it (1) contradicted eye-witness testimony establishing the head hit as the last, and (2) contradicted its own conclusion that the lone assassin left immediately after the hit at Z-313 and descended the Depository stairs in fewer than 90 seconds. Unless the Commission accepted a second shooter firing after Z-313, its single assassin could not "escape" in sufficient time to be confronted by two witnesses on the second floor of the Depository - as Lee Harvey Oswald was so confronted.

#### **The First-Shot/Thirteen-Frame Impossibility:**

Little attention has been paid to the impossible conditions placed upon the lone assassin in the alleged sniper's perch by the Warren Commission's hypothesis relative to the Commission's assumed first shot: if the oak tree obscured the assassin's view until Z-210, then he would have had to sight, aim, and squeeze off his first shot between Z-210 and Z-223, or, more likely, between Z-210 and Z-220:

ten frames, or 10/18.3 of a second. The Warren Commission's single assassin in his Depository sniper's nest would have had approximately one-half to three-quarters of one second<sup>1</sup> to sight and aim the round which hit both the president and Governor Connally. And after that incredible first shot the alleged killer would have had less than five seconds to sight, aim, and miss - then sight and aim the rifle round that hit the President in the head at Z-313. And working the bolt (re-loading) and squeezing the trigger two times, without sighting or aiming, would have taken at least 4.6 seconds of the remaining (less than) 5 seconds. With Frazier's approximate "1 second" for sighting and aiming time, the would-be assassin needed 6.6 seconds in less than five.

Warren Commission supporters assert that:

1. The oak tree did not obscure the alleged assassin's view; the oak tree has grown taller and thicker since 1963; therefore, it was shorter and thinner in 1963. No evidence, however, is supplied for the former assertion. Elaborating on this unsupported speculation, Warren Commission proponents argue for an earlier hit than Z-210/223, giving the alleged assassin a bit more time to fire, but thereby denying the Report they are supporting and increasing the "delayed" response of Connally.

2. The Mannlicher-Carcano can be fired three times in less than 4.6 seconds. Furthermore, it can be fired three times at a moving target from an elevation of 60 ft. and can hit that same moving target twice in two key places at 100 yards in less than 4.6 seconds - a feat so far impossible to duplicate by anyone on record. And why can the Mannlicher-Carcano be so fired? Because it happened. Arguing from the need to have it happen, the Warren Commission (and its supporters) arrived at the "fact" that it did happen.

No part of the Warren Commission single assassin/three-shot/single-bullet theory is credible: the Zapruder film destroys it. There was - and still is - a conspiracy.





## CHAPTER 8

### THE F.B.I. SPECTROGRAPHIC DOCUMENTS (I)

#### New Evidence Invalidating CE 399

On November 25th, 1975, F.B.I. Director Clarence M. Kelley released to me the twelve-year suppressed F.B.I. spectrographic analyses of the bullet and bullet fragments allegedly recovered in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Called inconclusive by J. Edgar Hoover when he reported on the Bureau's investigation to Commission counsel J. Lee Rankin on July 8th, 1964, the F.B.I. reports in fact cast serious doubt on the single-assassin theory of the Warren Commission.

Major revelations of the recently-released F.B.I. documents are:

1. the fragments in John Connally's right wrist wound are spectrographically *identical* to *fragments from John F. Kennedy's head wound* - disproving the one-bullet theory of the Warren Commission;
2. CE 399 - the basis for Arlen Specter's single-bullet theory - cannot be linked to any wounds suffered by either Kennedy or Connally;
3. the bullet recovered in the assassination attempt on General Walker does not match either CE 399 or two fragments recovered from President Kennedy's limousine; the Warren Commission's linking of Lee Harvey Oswald to the General Walker assassination attempt is seriously weakened.

In October, 1975, I requested the spectrographic documents, withheld for twelve years, under the provisions of the Federal Freedom of Information Act; Director Kelley responded to my request and released the F.B.I. reports. The documents, six pages long, include analysis of the famous "magic bullet" (called "CE 399" in Warren Commission exhibit listings), bullet fragments recovered from the President's limousine, fragments from President Kennedy's fatal head wound, and fragments from Governor Connally's right wrist wound. Two reports, in fact, were released to me, the first dated November 23rd, 1963, a spectrographic analysis by Agent John Gallagher, and a second dated December 4th, 1963. This second report is a spectrographic analysis of some of the J.F.K. materials, but it also includes a comparison between selected J.F.K. ballistics evidence, in particular the crucial "magic bullet," and the bullet recovered in the assassination attempt on General Edwin Walker. The source of the request for this analysis is listed as "SAC - Dallas (157-218)"; since "SAC" means "Special Agent in Charge," the notation indicates Gordon Shanklin, Special Agent in Charge of the F.B.I. Dallas office, requested the examination. Why? This second request for a laboratory analysis was received by the F.B.I. in Washington just five days before the Bureau submitted its final report on the assassination of the President to the Warren Commission. But Marina Oswald and the Dallas group around her had charged that Lee Harvey Oswald had attempted to murder General Walker. The results were not at all in the interest of either the F.B.I. or the Warren Commission.

Upon receiving the F.B.I. documents, I immediately brought them to a private spectroscopist, whose analysis has led me to conclusions which seriously damage the Warren Commission's single-rifle and single-assassin theory. The F.B.I. spectrographic evidence establishes a major difference between CE 399 (the virtually whole and unmarked bullet allegedly recovered from a stretcher at Parkland Memorial Hospital on November 22nd, 1963) and two bullet fragments (called "CE 843" by the Warren Commission) recovered from John F. Kennedy's fatal head wound. For the first time, spectrographic evidence disproves the argument that only one rifle - and therefore only one assassin - was involved in the J.F.K. assassination. Conservatively, the results also indicate that the front and rear limousine bullet fragments, the President's head wound fragments (CE 843) and Connally's right wrist wound fragments (CE 842) are all from one bullet which hit the President's head: they are all *chemically identical*. And at least one of those fragments does not match CE 399. Conservatively, the fragments are from one bullet: the bullet that struck the President's head; but the five fragments can be from fragments of two or more bullets manufactured and boxed at the same time - and this equally-plausible conclusion means a fourth, and possibly a fifth, bullet fired in

the assassination. This new evidence destroys the single-bullet theory of the Warren Commission. At least two rifles firing different kinds of bullets is the inevitable conclusion to be drawn from an analysis of the F.B.I. reports.

For convenience, I have combined the notations of the F.B.I. analysis with Warren Commission designations and identifications. ("Q" refers to an artifact to be analyzed by the F.B.I. laboratories; "CE" stands for a Warren Commission Hearings exhibit.)

Q1 = CE 399: the so-called "stretcher bullet" from Parkland Memorial Hospital; 158.6 grains; copper-jacketed, lead core; the virtually whole bullet, nearly undeformed, unmarked, and clean, which was the basis for the "single-bullet" theory - seven non-fatal wounds inflicted on Kennedy and Connally by a single bullet.

Q2 = CE 567: on November 22nd, evening, found by the Secret Service on the front seat of the Presidential limousine next to driver Greer's seat; 44.6 grains; "nose" fragment; copper-jacketing and lead core. Q2 was the "control" fragment, since it contained both copper alloy and lead alloy.

Q3 = CE 569: On November 22nd, evening, found by the Secret Service to the right side of the front seat of the Presidential limousine (next to Kellerman's seat): 21.0 grains; base fragment; copper-jacketing only; no lead.

Q4, Q5 = CE 843: on November 22nd, early afternoon, extracted from President Kennedy's head wound(s) at Parkland Memorial Hospital; two lead fragments; no copper.

Q9 = CE 842: on November 22nd, early afternoon, extracted from John Connally's right wrist wound at Parkland Memorial Hospital; the "more than three grains" referred to by Dr. Robert Shaw, one of the attending physicians; lead fragments; no copper.

Q14 = CE 840: on November 23rd, found by the F.B.I. on the rug underneath the left jump seat occupied by Mrs. John Connally; three small fragments between 7/10 and 9/10 of a grain each; lead fragments; no copper.

Q15 = CE 841: presidential limousine windshield (inner surface) metallic "smear"; lead; no copper.

Q188 = Walker assassination-attempt bullet; deformed; copper and lead.

The spectroscopist I consulted in 1975 reached these key conclusions:

...bullet fragments Q4,Q5 [CE 843: President's head wound fragments], Q14 [CE 840: rear floorboard fragments], Q9 [CE 841: Connally's wrist wound fragments], and Q2 [CE 567: a front-seat fragment] *appear to be identical in chemical composition.*

Q1 [CE 399: the so called "magic bullet"] *shows chemical differences from Q2 [CE 567: a front seat fragment] in composition of copper jacket. (italics added)*

With these results, the single-assassin theory in the murder of President John F. Kennedy is invalidated. Q1 (CE 399) *does not match* Q2 (CE 567). Q2 *is identical with* Q4 and Q5 (CE 843), with Q14 (CE 840), and most importantly with Q9 (CE 842) - Connally's wrist wound fragments. Additionally, Q3 (CE 569), a fragment of copper jacketing, may be from still another and separate bullet. Q1 (CE 399), the virtually whole bullet upon which is based the single-bullet theory, *could not have caused Connally's wrist wound (and therefore not his thigh wound): the single-bullet theory is indefensible.* And if CE 399 did not penetrate either Kennedy's neck or Connally's body, *how did it get to Parkland Memorial Hospital?*

J. Edgar Hoover was less than candid in glossing over the implications of his Bureau's own scientific analysis. The Warren Commission did not see the actual F.B.I. spectrographic analysis, and finally called John Gallagher, the Bureau's spectroscopist, as its last witness. Gallagher was not asked to testify and did not voluntarily testify on the results of his own spectrographic tests. Gallagher's testimony was an historic occasion: Norman Redlich, assistant counsel of the President's Commission, took Gallagher's deposition - with a stenographer present and recording the questions and answers. The date was September 15th, 1964; in nine days the *Report of the President's Commission on the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy* would be given to President Johnson. Nowhere in the Report is Gallagher's name even mentioned.

The Dallas Police Department submitted its 209-page "file on investigation of the assassination of the President" which the Warren Commission designated as Commission Document 81b (which in turn became Commission Exhibit 2003), pp. 195-404 in 24 H. J. Edgar Hoover's report to Jesse E. Curry, Chief of Police, Dallas, Texas, is reproduced on pp. 262-264, summarizing the F.B.I. spectrographic analysis

originally requested by Chief Curry. Hoover's report is buried inside a 209-page Dallas police report which was photo-reduced and printed without comment in the third-last volume of the Commission's twenty-six volumes of testimony, deposition, document, and exhibit, and it is the only "spectrographic" evidence the Commission or its staff might have used (though there is no sign that it was even read).

Nothing of the recently-released material appears in this Hoover-to-Curry report; only the following vague sentence hints at the actual content of the analysis:

The lead metal of Q4 and Q5, Q9, Q14 and Q15 is similar to the lead of the core of the bullet fragment, Q2.

Q2 (CE 567), the front seat fragment, was used by the F.B.I. laboratory as well as by the spectrographer I consulted as a comparison control, since it was the only fragment with both copper jacketing and lead core. Hoover was careful not to give the difference between Q1 (CE 399: the "magic bullet") and Q2 (CE 567: the copper and lead control fragment) and what that difference could mean; instead of *identity* (which the F.B.I. data clearly indicate), Hoover speaks of *similarity*, avoiding the crucial chemical identity between Q4, Q5, and Q9 which invalidates the Commission's single-bullet theory.

A second F.B.I. man, Agent Heiberger, seems to have done the second analysis (requested by Gordon Shanklin). Again, Q2 (CE 567), the copper and lead fragment, was used as a comparison control. The result: Q188, the Walker assassination attempt bullet, was established as different from both Q1 (CE 399) and Q2 (CE 567). Lacking this suppressed spectrographic information as well as the actual results of the earlier F.B.I. analysis either by design, accident, or ineptness, the Warren Commission was able to accept inconclusive ballistics testimony to buttress its case against Lee Harvey Oswald. Had the Commission used the suppressed F.B.I. report, its conclusions would have been quite different from what they were.

The F.B.I. spectrographic analyses negate the single-bullet theory of the Warren Commission, since the Commission asserted that one bullet (Q1: CE 399) entered the President's neck, exited his throat, penetrated Connally's back, exited the Governor's chest, and wounded both his right wrist and his left thigh, imbedding itself in the femur bone. The Commission further argued that the one bullet - virtually whole - dropped out of Connally's thigh onto a stretcher at Parkland Memorial Hospital. But the F.B.I. report shows that Q9 (CE 842), the metal removed

from Connally's shattered wrist, rather than matching CE 399, the so-called "stretcher bullet," in fact matches fragments from Kennedy's fatal head wound. Since analysis of the Zapruder film shows that Connally was hit at frame 227 (conservatively, no later than 235), and that as late as frame 276 his right wrist was not hit, the logical and inescapable conclusion is that another bullet or bullet fragment - not CE 399 - caused his wrist wound (and probably his thigh wound). And since the wrist fragments do not match CE 399, but rather match the Kennedy head fragments (CE 843), CE 399 did not penetrate his wrist and imbed itself in his thigh, obviously making it incapable of falling out of his thigh at Parkland Memorial Hospital.

The evidence suggests that both the wrist and thigh wounds of the Governor were caused by at least one fragmenting bullet striking the President's head. Again we are left with the virtually un mutilated, undeformed bullet found at the Hospital. Did it, as several doctors thought at the Bethesda Naval Hospital autopsy, fall out of Kennedy's "shallow" back wound - if it was shallow? But if it did fall out of Kennedy, it could not have penetrated Connally's back and chest: another bullet must have been fired at Dealey Plaza. And a fourth bullet disproves the Warren Commission's findings that only three shots were fired at the President on November 22nd, 1963.

Almost as important as the Dealey Plaza revelations are the data supplied to me by F.B.I. Director Kelley on the F.B.I. analysis of the bullet recovered in the assassination attempt on General Walker, an attack the Warren Commission argued was committed by Oswald. F.B.I. ballistics expert Frazier testified about his attempt to match the bullet recovered at the site of the Walker shooting with the Mannlicher-Carcano, and gave his specialist's judgment: "I was unable to reach a conclusion as to whether or not it [Q188] had been fired from this rifle [the Mannlicher-Carcano]." The December, 1963, F.B.I. analysis supplied to me in fact establishes absolute differences between the Walker bullet and the J.F.K. evidence, weakening still further the Warren Commission's argument that linked Oswald to both the Walker incident and the J.F.K. murder. According to the spectroscopist I consulted:

...the bullet fired at General Walker [Q188] shows differences in chemical composition of the copper jacket (tin) and the lead alloy (antimony and tin) than Q-1 [the CE 399 bullet], Q-2 bullets [front seat fragments: CE 567] fired at President Kennedy.

Some analyses and comparisons in the F.B.I. report were curiously omitted. Though the F.B.I. report lists lead scraping from the inside of the President's limousine windshield (Q15: CE 841), either no attempt was made to see if that metal matched CE 399 and the other recovered fragments, or that part of the F.B.I. report is still suppressed. A copper fragment found beside the front seat (Q3: CE 569) was not fully analyzed. And spectrographic analysis of the metallic residue on the bullet holes in Kennedy's coat and shirt was not included. The November 23rd report submitted to Dallas Police Chief Jesse E. Curry does refer to the windshield scraping:

The lead metal of Q4 and Q5, Q9, Q14 and Q15 is similar to the lead of the core of the bullet fragment, Q2. (*italics added*)

Since the spectroscopist I consulted found that Q4, Q5, Q14, Q9 and Q2 appeared "to be *identical* in chemical composition," I assume that Q15 (the windshield smear) was also found by the F.B.I. laboratory to be identical - "similar" as the Hoover report to Curry says. Why, then, not release that information?

Parts of the new F.B.I. documents are incomplete: no "Result of Examination" is given on either laboratory work sheet, for example, though the F.B.I. may have "whited-out" those parts of the documents and several others, constituting continued suppression of evidence. One provocative section seems to be a comparison between fragments and two other items (possible three), which might be test bullets not associated with the assassination: "Std. A 101" and "Std. A 104." The analysis shows clear differences between these objects and the J.F.K.-Connally fragments, but no comment or conclusion is given in the F.B.I. report as to the significance of these spectrographic dissimilarities.

Several puzzling items may make a pattern so destructive to the already shaky case against Lee Harvey Oswald that they may have been the primary reason for the twelve-year suppression of the F.B.I. report. On one of the pages of the report are these three lines:

Q6 6.5 mm Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge case from building

Q7 6.5 mm Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge case from building

Q8 6.5 mm Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge (live) from rifle.

Neither the November 23rd nor the December 4th F.B.I. spectrographic work sheets seems to list these items; but three notations can be found on the December 4th work sheet, one in the "Copper jacket" analysis group and two in the "Lead Alloy" analysis group. The handwriting is nearly illegible and could be read as either "K from red shelf" or "K from rifle shell." Could "K" stand for cartridge case? If so,

the F.B.I. lab analysis seems to establish that the cartridge cases do not match the ballistics evidence from the assassination. Could the cases have been planted? Note: F.B.I. practice is to label items in question with "Q," and items not in question "K" (Known). Such standard F.B.I. procedure might have been followed here.

### More Than Three Shots

My governing assumption in this review of the newest J.F.K. assassination evidence has been that spectrographic identity means that all fragments found to be chemically identical are therefore fragments from one bullet. But this constraint is a very narrow one; a further possibility is even more damaging to the Warren Report. Chemical identity between bullet fragments might indicate that such fragments are from the same manufacturing "run" - that the bullets were produced and boxed at the same time. If this possibility is in fact the truth, then the number of possible shots are:

1. Q1 (CE 399): not equal to Q2;
2. Q2 (CE 567): limousine fragment; copper and lead;
3. Q3 (CE 569): limousine fragment; copper;
4. Q4, 5 (CE 843): lead fragments from Kennedy's head wound;
5. Q9 (CE 842): lead fragments from Connally's wrist wound;
6. Q24 (CE 840): limousine fragment; lead;
7. Q15 (CE 841): windshield smear; lead;
8. the "missed shot": "lead with a trace of antimony" on the Tague curbing.

CE 399, of course, does not match the identical manufacturing run of items 2 through 7, casting further doubt on its authenticity. And items 2 through 8, excluding the suspect "stretcher bullet," could represent *at least seven bullets fired in Dealey Plaza*. Neither the F.B.I. nor the Warren Commission offered any evidence to invalidate this possibility. In fact, Hoover's vague word "similar" might be taken as confirmation the F.B.I. laboratory came to these same conclusions, destroying the Bureau's own hypothesis of three shots and three separate hits (with no hint of a missed shot). Ignoring the chemical differences between Q1 (CE 399) and Q2 (CE 567) would be a way of protecting the F.B.I. while offering the Warren Commission room to move around in, and given the suppressed spectrographic evidence and the vague reports that eventually reached the Warren Commission (through the Dallas Police file submission), move around the Warren Commission



most certainly did.

Any of the recovered fragments (exclusive of CE 399) could be parts of:

- (a) the bullet that struck Kennedy in the back (unlikely);
- (b) the bullet that struck Kennedy in the throat, leaving lead fragments in the tissues (unlikely);
- (c) the bullet that struck Connally in the back, exiting the front of his chest (likely);
- (d) the bullet or bullet fragment that struck Connally's wrist (possible);
- (e) the bullet or bullet fragment that imbedded in Connally's thigh bone (possible);
- (f) the bullet(s) which struck Kennedy's head (possible);
- (g) the bullet or bullet fragment that struck the limousine windshield (possible);
- (h) the "missed shot" - the bullet or bullet fragment that struck the curbing in the wounding of Tague (highly unlikely).

Still another way of using the chemical identity of the fragments to establish more than three shots is to list the hits, since CE 399 cannot be associated with any of them, and all the fragments can be from either one bullet or as many as eight bullets:

- 1. Kennedy's back hit (copper traces on clothing);
- 2. Kennedy's throat hit (lead fragments in the throat);
- 3. Connally's thorax hit;
- 4. Kennedy's head wound(s);
  - a. the lead fragments (the Q2 identity);
  - b. the dust-like particles in his brain; a possible second head hit;
- 5. the "missed shot": the James Tague wounding;
- 6. Connally's wrist wound;
- 7. Connally's thigh wound;
- 8. the windshield smear;
- 9. the chrome defect above the windshield.

Finally, the most economical hypothesis based upon the recently-released F.B.I. documents for the number of shots would be:

- 1. Kennedy's back hit;

2. Kennedy's throat hit;
3. Connally's thorax hit;
4. Kennedy's head hit, including
  - a. Connally's wrist and thigh wounds,
  - b. the limousine windshield (and chrome defect);
5. the "missed shot."

More than three shots is incontrovertible proof of conspiracy.

## CHAPTER 9

### THE F.B.I. SPECTROGRAPHIC DOCUMENTS (II)

#### Spectrography and Forensics

How does the new spectrographic evidence help us to understand the available medical evidence? President John F. Kennedy was struck in the head by at least one round of ammunition, and the nature of the President's head wound has an important bearing on the ballistics evidence. Nearly all of the right half of the brain had been blown away, and *scores of tiny metallic fragments (observed on X-rays) were distributed throughout the right-front of his head and brain.* Little skull or scalp remained in the right-front head area; brain tissue had run from the large wound area in the head; and both the scalp and the skull around this area were severely damaged. Two other wound sites are in dispute: (1) a so-called entrance wound at the top rear of the head, and (2) a left temple (hairline) wound.

The Warren Commission attempted to link (1) CE 399, two bullet fragments, and the Mannlicher-Carcano examined by the F.B.I., and (2) the three cartridge cases and the Mannlicher-Carcano. But the Warren Commission failed to make any connection between the kind of ammunition allegedly used by the assassin and the wounds to President Kennedy's head. Given the three cartridge shells allegedly found on the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository and the live round allegedly found in the alleged assassination weapon, the Warren Commission accepted the constraint imposed by those cartridges and that live round. They argued (without proof) that only military-type ammunition was fired by the assassin. Military rounds are constructed with (1) a chemically-hardened lead "core," so that the core is a lead alloy, and (2) a chemically-hardened copper jacket, so that the jacket is a copper alloy. Such core-and-jacket construction is intended to ensure good penetration without deformation. When a military round strikes bone or some other hard object, deformation or fragmentation occurs, but it is usually a separation of the jacket from the core. If further fragmentation occurs, the jacket and core break apart in fairly large pieces. The Warren Commission argument consisted simply in postulating a direct connection between (1) the alleged "entrance" wound on the rear of the President's head; and (2) the massive wound on the right side and front of the head, which the Warren Commission designated an "exit" wound; and (3) military-type ammunition allegedly used by Lee Harvey Oswald. No autopsy evidence was offered in support of this hypothesis.

Speaking only about the round, regular wound hole allegedly found on the rear top of the President's head, Dr. Humes (the Bethesda Naval Hospital autopsy doctor) answered Counsel Arlen Specter's question about the possible use of a fragmenting-type round with a description that fits *the massive disruption on the right side of the President's head*:

...Had [the rear-top-of-the-head wound] been inflicted by a dum dum bullet, I would anticipate that it would not have anything near the regular contour and outline which it had. I would also anticipate that the skull would have been much more extensively disrupted, and not have...a defect which quite closely corresponded to the overlying skin defect *because that type of missile would fragment on contact and be much more disruptive....*

Precisely. Had Specter asked Humes about the large wound in the right side of the head, Humes could not have more accurately described it, nor could he have keyed his testimony to the ballistic and medical evidence more clearly.

What of the skull-shot simulations performed for the Warren Commission? Did the simulations support the Commission argument that military-type ammunition (jacketed, penetrative, with low fragmentation) was used? Did the geletin-filled (but scalpless) skulls show that military-type ammunition could produce the kind of observed wound which was sustained by the president (laceration of the scalp, fractures of the skull, large fragments of the skull shot away *with much of the brain matter on the right side blown away* and continuing to ooze from the large head defect even as the Parkland Memorial Hospital doctors worked in vain to save the president's life)? Though ten test skulls were fired on, only one of the skulls was afterward displayed to the Warren Commission, and only that firing, according to the Report "blew out the right side...in a manner similar to the [president's] head wound...." Yet even in this single "successful" test, the geletin which was supposed to simulate the president's brain tissues was *completely undisturbed*. Only one out of ten of the tests was similar to the president's head wound, and yet the president's brain tissues were lacerated, disrupted, extensively damaged. The only test firing the results of which were displayed to the Warren Commission as simulating the wound the president suffered was incapable of even minimal disruption of the simulated brain tissue inside of the test skull. And yet the president's brain was nearly half shot away. The Warren Commission, therefore, was not able to reproduce the alleged results of a copper-jacketed, lead-alloy core, military-type round striking the head of the president.

### Non-Jacketed Lead Bullets at Dealey Plaza

Not only was the Warren Commission unable to associate the president's massive head wounds with the military-type ammunition allegedly used by Lee Harvey Oswald; evidence available to the Warren Commission, to the F.B.I., to the Justice Department at the time of the Clay Shaw trial in New Orleans, and now to investigators as a result of the release of the F.B.I. spectrographic reports, points strongly to *lead bullets* being used on November 22nd, 1963, in Dealey Plaza - *lead bullets (without copper-alloy jackets) more typically associated with sporting rifles and with "varminting."* Vincent Salandria was the first J.F.K. researcher to develop material pointing to such a conclusion; most recently, Howard Roffman has argued convincingly for such a conclusion based on his ballistic and medical analysis.

The spectrographic and ballistic evidence suggests strongly that two kinds of rounds struck the president's head. But the Warren Commission established *no connection* between the military-type rounds allegedly used by Lee Harvey Oswald and the awesome head wound sustained by President John F. Kennedy. Remember, CE 399 does not match the two metal fragments from the wound, and CE 399 is a lead-alloy core, copper-alloy jacketed military round. If the Warren Commission's own evidence and the newly-released spectrographic reports are combined, then (1) the nature of the president's head wounds, (2) the fragmentation *within* the president's head, and (3) the spectrographic differences between CE 399 and the fragments recovered from that head wound all constitute evidence that *a type of sporting round struck Kennedy's head in Dealey Plaza*. The evidence now publicly available - which was available to the F.B.I. after the murder of the president and during the investigation - supports the suspicion that rounds other than a military type were fired at and struck John F. Kennedy.

In standard rifle round texts, the 6.5 mm. Mannlicher-Carcano rifle cartridge is described as a round-nosed bullet with a *cupronickel jacket*. Cupronickel is an alloy of copper and nickel, 80% copper and 20% nickel. The heretofore-suppressed F.B.I. spectrographic tests indicate *no analysis for nickel* - and that missing analysis allows us to speculate that a much softer copper-jacketed bullet was fired at Dealey Plaza. Why the major discrepancy? Is it because this single fact eliminates the Mannlicher-Carcano examined by the F.B.I. as the assassin's rifle? Hundreds of 6.5-mm rounds were test-fired by the F.B.I.; why didn't the Bureau call the Warren Commission's attention to the simple fact that cupronickel jackets register nickel traces under spectrographic analysis?

The Warren Commission's own ballistics witness testified "it was not possible to determine whether the two bullet fragments [recovered from the limousine: Q2 and Q3] were from the same bullet or from *two different bullets.*" (italics added) F.B.I. ballistics expert Frazier is cited both in the *Report* and in its supporting materials as unable to eliminate the two-bullet possibility. Is it because Q2 and Q3 are, in fact, fragments from two different bullets? The newly-revealed Bureau data indicate Q2 has traces of antimony - did Q3 show no antimony? Testimony by Army ballistics specialist Dr. Olivier suggests an expert's doubt that a 6.5-mm. jacketed round could cause the head wounds inflicted on the President:

...this type of *stable* bullet I didn't think would cause a massive head wound. I thought it would go through making a small entrance and exit....(italics added)

Testimony before the Warren Commission suggesting a soft-nosed bullet struck the President's head came from ballistics expert Frazier:

There were blood and particles of flesh scattered all over the hood, the windshield, in the front seat and all over the rear floor rugs, the jump seats, and over the rear seat, and down both sides of the side rails or tops of the doors of the [presidential] car.

I might suggest that this testimony has not been given wide circulation because of its gruesome detail. But a second reason is more persuasive: that it supports the argument for a frangible round - a soft-nosed fragmenting bullet.

The Warren Commission admitted to the possibility of at least one total miss: "one shot probably missed the Presidential limousine and its occupants...." At least one bullet or bullet fragment did strike the street, causing sparks and smoke. James T. Tague, in fact, was hit in the face by a bullet, bullet fragment, or curbing chip during the assassination. The piece of curb which was hit was, after nine months, taken to the Washington F.B.I. laboratory. According to the *Warren Report*, the curb was examined for metallic smears which "were spectrographically determined to be essentially lead with a trace of antimony." The Warren Commission pointed out that the lead-alloy smear could have been made from the core of a fragmented military, jacketed round, but in the absence of copper the Commission could not argue "the possibility that the mark...was made by an unmutated military full metal-jacketed bullet" of the type allegedly used by Lee Harvey Oswald, of which CE 399 was the primary example. Evidence which seemed to contradict the Warren

Commission's hypothesis was ignored on the ground that, according to the *Report*, there was an "absence of copper." But the lead-alloy analyzed from the curb smear could have been deposited by a *lead bullet without a jacket*, which would have pointed to a rifle using ammunition other than military-type rounds firing at the president.

F.B.I. agent Shaneyfelt, a documents and photography expert, presented some spectrographic testimony to the Commission, as did Agent Frazier, a ballistics expert: a familiar pattern in the Warren Commission Hearings and *Report* in which an expert in his own field was asked to present evidence from outside his field; and in the area of spectrography, this pattern was crucial to the case the Warren Commission was building, or had already built. Shaneyfelt testified on the curb marking (at the south side of Main St.), and *his* testimony in turn was based on a J. Edgar Hoover letter to J. Lee Rankin, August 12th, 1964, which, according to Commission counsel Norman Redlich, gave "the results of this [spectrographic] investigation." Though the text is defective in 15 H, Shaneyfelt testified that the lab analysis:

...resulted in the finding of foreign [metal] smears adhering to the curbing section within the area of the mark. These metal smears were spectrographically determined to be essentially lead with a trace of antimony. No copper was found.

The lead could have originated from the lead core of ...[the] type of bullet loaded into the 6.5-millimeter Mannlicher-Carcano cartridges, or from some other source having the same composition.

The absence of copper precludes the possibility that the mark on the curbing section was made by an unmutilated military full metal-jacketed bullet such as the bullet from Governor Connally's stretcher.

The damage to the curbing would have been much more extensive if a rifle bullet had struck the curbing without first having struck some other object. Therefore, this mark could not have been made by the first impact of a high velocity rifle bullet.

Shaneyfelt leaves to the Warren Commission the problem of accounting for this hit, since it can be either a first strike or fragment of a strike - if the original bullet was not copper-jacketed. But either way, whether the smear came from an original non-jacketed bullet or from a lead-alloy fragment of a jacketed bullet which struck elsewhere in Dealey Plaza, the Warren Commission was left to deal with a possible fourth bullet. Of course, the F.B.I. helped the Commission dodge this possibility, since Shaneyfelt testified on September 1st, 1964, long after the F.B.I. knew that (1) both Q1 (CE 399) showed traces of antimony (the F.B.I. spectrographic analysis, p.6) and Q2 (CE 567), found on the front seat of the limousine, showed traces of antimony (p.6); (2) that the fragments Q2, Q4, Q5, Q9, and Q14 were identical; and (3) that Q3, a copper alloy fragment showing no antimony, *could* have been from another bullet. For if the F.B.I. laboratory, J. Edgar Hoover, or Shaneyfelt had communicated to the Warren Commission that the "lead with a trace of antimony" from the curbing did not spectrographically match Q1, Q2, or the Q2, 4, 5, 9, 14 group (setting aside, for the moment, Q3 as a possible fourth bullet), that communication would have established without argument a fourth and separate bullet fired in Dealey Plaza on November 22nd, 1963. The F.B.I.'s inconclusive vagueness, therefore, in Hoover's letter and Shaneyfelt's testimony left the Warren Commission unimpeded in its argument for a three-shot theory. This indifference to the possibility that the actual spectrographic analysis of the curbing reinforced a difference between CE 399, CE 567, and a group of identical fragments including Kennedy's head wound fragments and Connally's wrist wound fragments may account for the continued suppression of the curbing analysis. That still unreleased analysis may be redundant proof for a fourth bullet and of the falsity of the Warren Commission's case against Lee Harvey Oswald.

No part of its public record suggests the Commission ever considered the possibility that bullets other than copper-alloy jacketed rounds such as CE 399 were fired at or struck the President, the limousine, or the curbing at the scene of the assassination. When evidence did point in that direction, the Warren Commission consistently distorted or ignored such evidence. To entertain such a possibility would have been to entertain what is now evident: a conspiracy in the death of John F. Kennedy.

But the F.B.I. had possible evidence of lead bullets fired in the assassination, according to the Report:

...the Bureau agents noted a small residue of lead on the inside surface of the [presidential limousine's] laminated windshield....



The lead residue on the inside of the windshield was compared under spectrographic analysis by FBI agents with the bullet fragments found [in the front of the limousine]. It [the lead residue] was also compared with bullet fragments found at Parkland Memorial Hospital. All these bullet fragments were found to be similar in metallic composition, but it was not possible to determine whether two or more of the fragments came from the same bullet.

Notice that this "summary" is even more vague than the F.B.I. generalizations; neither lead, nor lead alloy, nor copper is mentioned: only "metallic composition." Note also the tantalizing possibility in the final vagueness: that since no two (or more than two) fragments could be traced to the "same bullet," *all* the fragments, including the windshield smear, could represent *as many as six to eight different bullets*. And a number of problems still remain. The lead or lead alloy residue of the windshield smear was subjected to analysis on November 23rd, 1963: the newly-released F.B.I. report lists the "smear" (it is called "Q15"); it might have been compared to the other fragments (but not to CE 399), the results blanked out before the release of the document. If so, why? But despite these lapses, the F.B.I. report supports the hypothesis that *lead bullets* were fired at and hit the president, hit the inside of the limousine's windshield, and struck the curbing at the site of the shooting.

### **The Ramsey Clark Panel**

What new evidence was available to the Justice Department in January, 1969? In February of 1968, Attorney General Ramsey Clark organized a forensic pathologists' panel to examine and report on the medical evidence in the assassination (primarily the photographs and X-rays). This report was suppressed until New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison moved to have the medical evidence released for use in the Clay Shaw conspiracy trial. Instead, it seems that Clark released the report in order to block Garrison's attempt to get the evidence produced in open court. The Clark Panel's description of the President's head wound includes this important passage:

...there is, embedded in the outer table of the skull close to the lower edge of the [entrance] hole, a large metallic fragment which...lies 25 mm. to the right of the midline. This fragment...is round and measures 6.5 mm. in diameter.

What does this fragment mean ballistically? Because the Warren Commission's charge against Lee Harvey Oswald demanded copper-jacketed bullets to have inflicted Kennedy's wounds, the finding of a 6.5 millimeter bullet fragment at the edge of the president's head wound *eliminates a copper-jacketed round making an entry through this hole*. The Clark Panel supplies further evidence. Having reported scores of fragments observable in what brain tissue remained in the president's head, the Clark Panel (1) located them in the *front and top of Kennedy's head*, (2) found none observable on the left side of the brain, and (3) found none observable below a horizontal plane through the anterior floor of the President's skull. Warren Commission material amplifies the evidence here; Dr. Humes testified before the Commission that the X-rays indicated "30 or 40 particle fragments" of metal in the president's head. The Clark Panel finding of a fragment-shaving means the strong possibility of a lead or frangible, soft-nosed bullet striking the president's head; Dr. Humes' testimony describes what happens when such a round hits. Secret Service Agent Roy Kellerman was present at the Bethesda Naval Hospital autopsy and saw the X-rays:

...the whole head looked like a mass of stars [;] there must have been 30, 40 lights where these little pieces were so minute that they couldn't be reached.

A widely-used standard text on forensic medicine, *Medico-Legal Investigation of Death*, by Werner U. Spitz and Russell S. Fisher, supplies the following authoritative commentary:

Frequently, lead bullets disintegrate upon impact on bone. *In bullet wounds of the head many lead fragments may be found scattered throughout the brain and on x-ray film may closely resemble a shotgun injury [where there is great dispersion of lead fragments throughout the wound]. (italics added)*

And what does the medical evidence show us about Kennedy's head wound? That such a frangible bullet, hitting the President's head and fragmenting into at least thirty to forty tiny particles of metal, "dustlike particles," and clustered in the front of the brain, is not consistent with the *copper-jacketed military rounds the Warren Commission asserted were used by Oswald*. Jacketed bullets do not fragment into such tiny particles distributed through a wound area. No ballistics or medical expert can be found who would support the possibility of such fragmentation and dispersal of a jacketed bullet.

Testimony given the Warren Commission established that the Mannlicher-Carcano examined by the F.B.I. was a *low to medium* velocity weapon. Such a weapon (at the firing distances suggested by the Warren Commission itself) will not inflict the kind of head wound President Kennedy sustained. But a sporting weapon could deliver both the necessary high velocity and the exploding impact observable at frame 313 of the Zapruder film - and a particular kind of sporting round is now indicated on the basis of the medical, ballistic, and the newly-released F.B.I. documents: a "varmint"-hunting bullet. Without access to the F.B.I. spectrographic reports, Howard Roffman came to the same conclusion, pointing out that rounds used in varmint-hunting are discharged at very high velocities, and are constructed so that *they will fragment on striking, commonly distributing pinhead-sized particles throughout the wounded tissues*. Roffman himself gives credit for his insight to earlier researchers, or at least for the direction of his analysis.

#### CE 399

With the release of the twelve-year suppressed F.B.I. reports, the Warren Commission's magical bullet becomes an even more suspect piece of evidence than before. Q1 (CE 399) does not match either Q2 or Q188, and it is an unmarked and possibly whole bullet. F.B.I. ballistics expert Robert Frazier testified that CE 399 did not necessarily lose any of its original weight. When "recovered" at Parkland Memorial Hospital, CE 399 weighed at least 158.6 grains - or more than 158.6 grains if it had been shaved for spectrographic analysis prior to weighing. It therefore might now weigh slightly less than 158.6 grains. Frazier testified there was a *normal* variation of at least two grains in the standard weight of the rounds he examined.

There did not necessarily have to be any weight loss to the [CE 399] bullet.

...158.6 [grains] is only a grain and a half less than normal weight, and at least a 2 grain variation would be allowed.

The so-called "stretcher bullet" lost only a minute amount of metal when it was shaved for spectrographic testing; again, according to F.B.I. expert Frazier,

...on the nose [of CE 399] is a small dent or scraped area. At this area the...examiner removed a small quantity of metal for analysis.

And contrary to the history of ballistics evidence, CE 399 was clean - no blood or bone or tissue adhered to it whatsoever. On all the other fragments, however, there was a "...slight residue of blood or some other material adhering...." One wonders how agents who testified with such vagueness and imprecision ever held on to their jobs. But, according to F.B.I. agent Frazier, "The [CE 399] bullet was clean...." We know that Connally's wounds had fabric driven into them, and bullets or bullet fragments inevitably have minute but observable traces of fabric or cloth adhering to them. Did CE 399? Ballistics expert Joseph D. Nicol testified to "...nothing of such a nature [that is, any evidence of contact with cloth or fabric] that ...would suggest a [fabric] pattern, like a weave pattern or *anything of that nature.*" (italics added)

The Warren Commission argued that CE 399 entered the back of Kennedy's neck (leaving holes in his coat and shirt), exited his throat, and then caused all of Connally's wounds. We now know that Q1 - CE 399 - could not have (1) entered Kennedy's back (or neck - according to the Warren Commission) and (2) caused *all* of Connally's wounds. F.B.I. agent Frazier also testified at the New Orleans Clay Shaw conspiracy trial:

Frazier:                   ...there was no [copper] jacketing missing, no discernable amount of jacket missing [from CE 399].

Oser:                     ...what could possible remove the copper jacketing for the lead contained therein to be deposited into a particular target?

Frazier:                 The bullet would have to strike some object with sufficient force to rupture the jacket either from striking head-on...[or] if the bullet tumbled in flight and wound up in a base-first attitude....

Oser:                    ...you found the copper jacketing intact [on CE 399]...?

Frazier:                Yes.

The lead particles in the president's neck discovered by the pathologists on the Clark Panel could not, therefore, have been deposited by CE 399. Its copper jacket was intact - and it certainly has never been suggested by any Warren Commission Report supporter that it tumbled through the president's neck-and-throat wound. A spectrographic analysis was made of the metal traces on the president's coat and shirt (where CE 399 allegedly pierced holes); ballistics expert Frazier again testified on these traces:

I had a spectrographic analysis of a portion of the hole....He [the spectrographer] took a sample of cloth and made an analysis of it.

.....  
Traces of copper were found around the margins of the hole in the back of the coat... [:] it was concluded that the copper was foreign to the coat itself.

Yet CE 399, by Frazier's own testimony, was intact: its copper jacket was unmarked. Is this fact the reason no analysis of the copper traces found on Kennedy's clothes was included in the documents I obtained from the F.B.I.? Do those copper traces not match CE 399 (Q1)? Does this still-unreleased analysis further disprove the single-bullet theory?

These questions are not the only ones that need answers in the ballistics area of the John F. Kennedy assassination. Are there, as the Clark Panel asserted, metal particles observable in the president's neck? If so, the probability of a lead bullet or fragmenting round presents itself. What was the spectrographic character of the metallic fragments on the holes in the president's shirt and jacket? Do they, as I strongly suspect, not match CE 399? What were the results of the F.B.I. laboratory analysis of the "Tague" curbing lead smear?

### **The F.B.I. Spectrographic Reports Prove Conspiracy**

Despite these unanswered questions, the new evidence in the John F. Kennedy assassination allows us to make these statements contradicting the Warren Commission's conclusions:

1. the fragments from Connally's wrist wound match the fragments from Kennedy's head wound, disproving the CE 399 "single-bullet" theory;
2. at least one fragment found in the president's limousine does not match CE 399: by logical extension, the president's head wound fragments and Governor Connally's wrist wound fragments do not match CE 399. CE 399, in fact, cannot be linked to any wounds suffered by either Kennedy or Connally;
3. the bullet recovered at the scene of the Walker assassination attempt does not match either CE 399 or two fragments recovered at Dealey Plaza; the Mannlicher-Carcano examined by the F.B.I. cannot be linked with that murder attempt either ballistically or spectrographically;

4. medical, ballistic, and spectrographic evidence supports the conclusion that John F. Kennedy was hit by at least one non-military, non-jacketed, fragmenting round at frame 313 of the Zapruder film.

## **PART TWO: SECRET AND VIOLENT MEN**





## **CHAPTER 10**

### **THE ALPHA 66 CONSPIRACY: AN "OTHER OSWALD" IDENTIFIED**

#### **The Wally Weston Story**

In 1976, Wally Weston, Jack Ruby's former master of ceremonies at the Carousel Club, repeated his sensationalized story on nation-wide television: that Lee Harvey Oswald - or someone looking like Oswald - visited Ruby's club in September or October of 1963, just months before John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, and that Jack Ruby acted as if he knew the alleged assassin-to-be.

Wally Weston's story included a verbal altercation between Weston and the Oswald figure - the young man from the audience accusing Weston of Communism - followed by Weston striking Oswald or his look-alike, and Ruby ejecting the trouble-maker, but not before Ruby was alleged to have said: "I told you never to come in here again!" If the name-caller was Oswald, the Warren Commission's suspicion of an Oswald-Ruby connection would be confirmed - and conspiracy was a possibility.

At least part of Wally Weston's story can be verified, and the Oswald look-alike can be identified, suggesting an ominous relation between (1) a figure known to Dallas, Texas, federal, and Warren Commission investigators, and (2) Jack Ruby, about whom new evidence gives us quite a different picture from the one we were allowed in 1964.

An Oswald look-alike was observed at the Dallas Dealey Plaza automobile demonstration, at an Irving gunshop, in an Irving second-hand furniture store, and at least six times at the Dallas Sports Drome Rifle Range (though other important credible and corroborated sightings were reported, this group is crucial). Each of these other-Oswald observations was rejected by the Warren Commission because each significantly contradicted the Commission's image of Lee Harvey Oswald, and each cast doubt on the testimony of the Commission's star witnesses against Oswald: Oswald's wife Marina and her close friend Ruth Paine (and, not incidentally, George de Mohrenschildt).

### **Frank Ellsworth's Other Oswald**

But in August, 1976, Treasury Agent Frank Ellsworth, who was present on the sixth floor with another Treasury agent in the Texas School Book Depository when the alleged assassin's rifle was found, and who was allegedly involved in the interrogation of Lee Harvey Oswald after his arrest, broke a twelve-year silence in an interview with *Village Voice* writer Dick Russell and admitted intimate knowledge of an Oswald double associated with the right-wing Dallas Minutemen he had been investigating in 1963.

To reporter Russell, Agent Ellsworth made a startling series of admissions. Ellsworth confirmed that his Oswald double was known to law enforcement officers; that he was alive and still a resident of Dallas; that the Oswald look-alike had been questioned by federal officers just after the assassination of President Kennedy; and that this "other Oswald" was, in fact, the "Oswald" seen in and around Dallas prior to the assassination, including the "Oswald" observed at the Sports Drome Rifle Range in November. According to Ellsworth, the known Oswald "twin" was the man mistaken for Lee Harvey Oswald throughout this period. Ellsworth said this "Oswald" was a right-winger, a member of the Minutemen, a frequent traveler in and out of Mexico, connected - in some way - to the family of oil billionaire H. L. Hunt, and ultimately convicted of a Federal arms violation. Ellsworth's "Other Oswald" had close connections to groups Ellsworth himself cited as possibly involved in the J.F.K. assassination (groups that Warren Commission counsel Hubert and Griffin worried about in relation to a Ruby assassination conspiracy). Ellsworth admitted to reporter Russell that a number of authorities - state, federal and local - were aware of the existence of his Oswald look-alike. According to Ellsworth, the officials (including himself), had conferred about the "Other Oswald."

With F.B.I., Secret Service, and Warren Commission counsel materials in hand, it would seem that Chief Counsel J. Lee Rankin could have put the puzzle together: but he did not.

In a Warren Commission memo dated April 16th, 1964, Ellsworth's story was confirmed:

Mr. Ellsworth described in some detail his undercover efforts in procuring the arrest of a local gun shop owner who is an ardent member of the Minutemen.

Ellsworth admitted his Oswald double had traveled in Mexico, and in CE 2694 we find that the second Oswald studied and traveled in Mexico (no details are given). Ellsworth further admitted the man he had been investigating associated with anti-Castro Cuban exiles, and in recently-released CD 853, the alleged Oswald twin acknowledged not only an association with Alpha 66 ( the violently anti-Castro *and* anti-Kennedy Cuban-exile group) but also confessed to supplying arms to the terrorist Cuban organization.

Ellsworth cited "rumors" that his Oswald look-alike had a connection to the H. L. Hunt family. In August, 1976, Ellsworth's alleged second Oswald admitted a Hunt family relation. With the recent disclosure of an alleged Oswald-"Hunt" communication, we can assume either a suppressed relation between Oswald and H.L. Hunt or a spurious connection intended to implicate Oswald further in a conservative conspiracy to kill the President. Recall that Jack Ruby visited the Hunt offices the day before the assassination. Warren Commission counsel Hubert and Griffin suspected Ruby's connections to organized crime, anti-Castro Cubans, and the right-wing were the best leads to follow in establishing a conspiracy with Ruby involvement, but their suspicions were ignored or rejected.

Ellsworth told Russell that an alleged sighting of Oswald at "someone's house" in the Dallas area was actually the observation of his "look-alike." Discounted by the Warren Commission, Dallas County Deputy Sheriff Buddy Walthers' "supplementary investigation report" dated "November 23, 1963" to Sheriff Decker takes on new meaning:

About 8:00 am this morning while in the presents [sic] of Allen Sweat, I talked to the head of the Dallas Secret Service. I advised him that for the past few months [September-November, 1963] at 3128 Harlendale [Avenue, Dallas] some Cubans had been having meetings on the weekends and were possibly connected with the "Freedom for Cuba Party" of which Oswald was a member.

Following that paragraph is another on the same report page, dated "11-26-63":

I don't know what action the secret service has taken but I learned today that sometime between seven days before the president was shot and the day after he was shot these Cubans moved from this house. My informant stated that subject Oswald had been to this house before.

Ignoring the errors in spelling, and "3128" for "3126," Warren Commission investigators *should* have found this Walthers report fascinating, as should House Select Committee probers. According to Robert D. Morrow, former C.I.A. employee,

...the [3126] Harlendale Avenue operation ...was the headquarters for the assassination teams in the JFK assassination plot.

Ellsworth revealed to reporter Russell that reports of Oswald with alleged Minutemen at a Dallas area rifle range were actually of his look-alike with known Minutemen friends. According to Ellsworth, he verified these rifle range appearances with his Other Oswald. Warren Report supporters have challenged Commission critics to come up with a name to match the many credible sightings of a "second Oswald," and now a name and identity can be supplied. And the most crucial sightings: the rifle range observations, where the Oswald double fired an "Italian carbine" and in the company of others, can now be corroborated.

Ellsworth revealed that his Oswald double had been charged with a violation of the National Firearms Act and was released (after raising bond) on a routine okay from agent Ellsworth, the arresting Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms officer responsible for the investigation. The April 16th, 1964, Commission memo cites "the arrest of a local gun shop owner," and CD 853 verifies that arrest on National Firearms Act violations.

Ellsworth described his covert Treasury Department inquiry into the "Other Oswald" to *Village Voice* interviewer Dick Russell, asserting his look-alike and Oswald were exact duplicates of each other: weight, height, face, and hair - "identical twins." Ellsworth confirmed he had been tracking his "Oswald" twin undercover, leading the look-alike to believe that Ellsworth was a criminal involved in Mexican smuggling. This "Oswald" was a right-winger and a member of the Minutemen, according to Treasury Agent Frank Ellsworth, and was eventually convicted on a gun violation. Ultimately released, the Oswald double has remained in sometime contact with Ellsworth since 1964, reported Dick Russell.

The April 16th Commission memo summarized Ellsworth's testimony:

An organization known as the Minutemen is the right-wing group in Dallas most likely to have been associated with any effort to assassinate the President.

.....

As a result of [his] undercover activities Agent Ellsworth learned that Manuel O. Rodriguez...was attempting to purchase arms in Dallas [from a Minutemen-associated gunsmith] for Alpha 66. Rodriguez is also a member of the DRE.

When Dick Russell asked Ellsworth's alleged Oswald twin about his reported Minutemen links, the look-alike admitted his association with the Minutemen and his sympathy with their anti-Castro cause. He also admitted that he had been interrogated by assassination investigators about his possible Minutemen connections, but maintained his life would be in danger if he spoke.

The Warren Commission April 16th memo on Ellsworth summarized: "The Minutemen are closely tied to General Walker and H.L. Hunt." To Russell, Ellsworth's alleged second Oswald said that he had been associated with Walker, and that his friends believed Hunt had financed their operations in 1963.

### **CD 853: New Evidence for a Second Oswald**

Though Ellsworth did not make the final identification of his "Other Oswald" to Russell by name, Ellsworth's description and the known facts about the arrested gunsmith cited in CD 853 dovetail exactly, and to reporter Russell, Frank Ellsworth finally admitted that Russell was pressing him for information which could jeopardize both himself and his "agency." He suggested that if Russell found his Oswald twin, the link between Ellsworth's gunsmith and the look-alike would be readily apparent; when Russell interviewed the gunsmith he found a "resemblance." According to CD 853, Treasury Agent Frank Ellsworth had gathered evidence against

John Thomas Masen...Dallas, Texas, for violation of National Firearms Act.

.....

Masen informed Ellsworth that [Manuel Orcarberro] Rodriguez...had made purchases from him; that they [Alpha 66] presently had a large cache of arms somewhere in Dallas....

*John Thomas Masen* - whose history matches precisely the Ellsworth "Oswald" description. And who is Manuel Rodriguez? Rodriguez was the head of the Dallas Alpha 66, the anti-Castro Cuban organization which met at 3126 Harlendale Avenue, reputedly the home of Jorge Salazar. Rodriguez (also known to federal authorities as Manuel Rodriguez Orcarberro) was under investigation after the Kennedy assassination by the Protective Research Division of the Secret Service, that branch charged with probing possible threats to the life of the president. Rodriguez was known to be violently anti-Castro and to have made anti-Kennedy statements after the Bay of Pigs defeat.

Dallas F.B.I. informant T-1 characterized Manuel Rodriguez Orcarberro, president of SNFE/Alpha 66/MRP, as "violently anti-President Kennedy." Rodriguez worked for the Coca-Cola bottling company in Cuba until 1958, when he joined Castro. Rodriguez may have been involved in clandestine anti-Castro activity while seemingly cooperating with the revolutionary leader. After Castro came to power, Rodriguez returned to Coca-Cola, probably plotting against the Cuban premier, but soon took refuge in the Brazilian Embassy in Havana, escaping to the United States in November 1960. Rodriguez obtained a job as a dishwasher in a Miami Beach hotel, staying there until September, 1963. In 1960, William Harvey and James O'Connell of the Central Intelligence Agency and John Roselli, Sam Giancana, and Santo Trafficante, reputed Syndicate figures recruited by Robert Maheu (ex-F.B.I. agent, C.I.A. operative, and Howard Hughes representative at the time), met in Miami and at least through 1961 plotted the death of Fidel Castro, passing poison pills to a Cuban-exile Miami Beach hotel employee with connections in the homeland. *Was that Syndicate-C.I.A. Cuban contact Manuel Rodriguez?* In September, 1963, when he left his Miami Beach hotel job, Rodriguez registered as an alien in Dallas, Texas, and headed the Alpha 66 anti-Castro operation which met at 3126 Harlendale Avenue.

On November 17th, 1963, Fina Service Station operator Willis D. Price, Sulpher, Oklahoma, saw what he later believed to be Lee Harvey Oswald in the company of a group of Cubans who stopped at his gas station. Price informed the Sulpher chief of police, who in turn informed federal authorities. The results of an F.B.I. investigation into that alleged Oswald sighting were reported in CD 23. Chief of Police Charles J. McBee identified three of the Cubans as employees of the local

Oklahoma Veterans Hospital, one of whom, Dr. M.L. Socarraz, further identified the other Cubans described by Fina operator Price as Cubans "who visited him" (Socarraz) on November 17th, 1963. "SOCARRAZ, after examining a photograph of LEE HARVEY OSWALD..., stated that MANOLITO RODRIGUEZ possibly did resemble OSWALD." This Socarraz statement is at least curious, since the Fina attendant described the Oswald look-alike in terms quite different from the darker Cubans. Socarraz did give Manuel Rodriguez's Dallas address and telephone number, both of which placed Rodriguez in the Oak Cliff section, near Alpha 66's Harlendale Avenue house, near Lee Harvey Oswald's Dallas rooming-house address, and near Jack Ruby's place of residence. Rodriguez was assumed to be the Oswald look-alike, and it seems neither the F.B.I. nor the Commission's counsel pursued this lead. Manuel Rodriguez eventually moved to Puerto Rico, where he was interviewed by Kennedy assassination researchers about the Oklahoma "Oswald" incident. He said that "someone thought one of my friends was Oswald," but that it was "just one big mistake." What Rodriguez did not tell his interviewer was that he did in fact have an associate who was an alleged Oswald double, established through the Dick Russell interview with Treasury agent Frank Ellsworth whose undercover activities against Rodriguez were cited in CD 853.

On August 1st, 1963, the *New York Times* reported anti-Castro Cuban exiles had formed an alliance with members of the right-wing Minutemen organization. For a time, this illegal arms-Minutemen-anti-Castro Cuban exile story was known only from an internal memorandum Commission counsel Griffin had sent to J. Lee Rankin dated April 16th, 1964. Griffin, together with Commission counsel Hubert, had been attempting to follow up a series of leads, rumors, facts, speculations, and suspicions: that links might be established between Oswald and Ruby, if only indirectly; and that Ruby's associations with organized crime, the right wing in Dallas, and with anti-Castro Cubans might reveal evidence of conspiracy (see, for example, the Hubert-Griffin internal memo of March 20th, 1964). So the Hubert-Griffin memoranda were filled with frustratingly-unexplored leads: the two Commission lawyers were eventually to characterize their own attempt at a Ruby investigation as "inadequate." And here was one more unexplored lead which counsel Griffin reported: in late 1963, United States Treasury agents had arrested a Dallas gunsmith - a member of the Minutemen - for illegally supplying Cuban exiles with firearms.

According to CD 853, "Agent Ellsworth had recently worked in an undercover capacity while gathering evidence" against the Minuteman gunshop owner. The Protective Research Division report of Secret Service Agent Roger C.

Warner on Ellsworth's undercover work was part of a package on "Manuel Rodriguez" submitted to J. Lee Rankin from J. J. Rowley, Chief of the Secret Service, April 24th, 1964, after Rankin had requested the material two days before. This same document listed Rodriguez's Alpha 66 connections. Is the second Oswald Ellsworth described John Thomas Masen, alleged gun smuggler, reported Minuteman, and associate of Manuel Orcarberro Rodriguez of Alpha 66 in Dallas, Texas? Was Masen with Rodriguez in Sulpher, Oklahoma? Did Willis D. Price see Masen and Rodriguez together?

### **3126 Harlendale Avenue**

What of 3126 Harlendale Avenue, the Dallas Alpha 66 headquarters? Recall Dallas County Deputy Sheriff Walthers' "supplementary investigation report" placing an Oswald look-alike at the address immediately before the Kennedy assassination. Was Frank Ellsworth's Oswald twin at the Harlendale house? The Alpha 66 house was occupied by a group known to the Secret Service as violently anti-Kennedy, known to the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms division of the Treasury (to which the Secret Service also belonged) as a buyer of illegal weaponry from a right-wing Minuteman already known to Dallas, state, and federal authorities as an Oswald double who was questioned (according to Ellsworth) by federal investigators immediately after the assassination. Alpha 66 was led by Manuel Rodriguez, violently opposed to both Castro and Kennedy, at whose 3126 Harlendale Avenue headquarters either Lee Harvey Oswald or an Oswald double was spotted by a Dallas Sheriff's office informant. And the Warren Commission's public record shows no follow-up on this obvious lead.

In 1976, Robert D. Morrow, former C.I.A. employee, submitted to the House Select Committee on Assassinations a manuscript which documented, in part, the charges he made in *Betrayal*. In 1977, Morrow reportedly testified before the House Committee about Alpha 66 and Manuel Orcarberro Rodriguez who

was known to have worked closely with Kohly's Free Cuba Committee, Banister's Citizens for a Free Cuba Committee, and Loran Hall's funder, the Committee to Free Cuba, etc., according to an F.B.I. informant in Dallas....

Morrow also reportedly testified to his conviction that

Manuel Rodriguez Orcarberro ran the Dallas unit of Alpha 66 and overtly controlled the [3126] Harlendale Avenue operation which I [Morrow] feel was the headquarters for the assassination teams in the JFK assassination plot.



Whether Morrow's charges are ever corroborated, Warren Commission counsel in 1964 had evidence of a curious grouping of right-wingers and anti-Castro Cubans in possession of illegal weaponry and led by men with records of previous involvement in assassination attempts on a head of state they hated, Castro, at least one of whom had voiced sufficient upset with the President of the United States to be placed in the Protective Research category of the Treasury Department. And, according to at least one Treasury agent, the group's source of weapons was an Oswald double known to J.F.K. murder probers at *all* levels of the investigation in 1963.

### **A Hunting-Type Bullet: CE 2694**

Still more significant links exist in these Other Oswald revelations for which a review of the following hard evidence is relevant. Medical, ballistic, and spectrographic evidence proves:

1. the president was hit in the back at the third thoracic vertebra with a bullet that did not exit - possibly shattering or fragmenting;
2. the president was hit in the throat at the second tracheal ring - below the thyroid cartilage or Adam's apple and above the necktie knot - and x-rays show lead particles scattered through his neck tissues;
3. the president was hit in the head - and the governor was hit in the right wrist - by one fragmenting round, or two rounds, which left thirty to forty tiny lead particles distributed through what brain matter was left after the President's skull exploded under the fatal impact recorded unforgettably in the Zapruder film.

The evidence proves CE 399, a copper-alloy jacketed, lead-alloy core 6.5 Mannlicher-Carcano *military* round, had nothing to do with either Kennedy's or Connally's wounds, but that frangible, varminting, sporting, soft-lead (possibly hollow) rounds were employed. But where could such soft-nosed rounds be obtained? 6.5 mm. rounds were manufactured both in Italy and in the United States as military hard-nosed, jacketed missiles.

A crucial F.B.I. report - CE 2694 - has been referred to a few times by some Kennedy researchers. But buried in the last of the twenty-six volumes of Hearings evidence of the Warren Commission, CE 2694 has been an unrealized set of links in the story of the killing of John F. Kennedy - mortally wounded by what the evidence indicates were fragmenting sporting rounds; Alpha 66; the Harlendale house; the Other Oswald sightings, especially at the Dallas Sports Drome Rifle Range; and the possible source of those soft-lead bullets.

On March 11th, 1964, the F.B.I. interrogated John Thomas Masen at his gun shop in Dallas. Masen "advised he was unable to identify this individual [Lee Harvey Oswald] as being a person to whom he had previously sold 6.5 ammunition." Having informed the agents that he had handled 6.5 rounds, he said he "had acquired this ammunition from John Brinegar, owner of The Gun Shop" in Dallas. On March 12th, 1964, the F.B.I. interviewed Brinegar, whose opinion of the Mannlicher-Carcano was rather low: "a very cheap rifle," Brinegar offered. He also "advised that...the scope of the rifle...would have been mounted by the factory. ...in mounting the scope, the bolt would have to be altered." Shown a photograph of Oswald, "he stated he was not able to identify this individual as being a person to whom he had previously sold 6.5 ammunition." Brinegar informed the F.B.I. that "6.5 ammunition [was] manufactured by the Western Cartridge Company" and was available from a "number of wholesale dealers."

On March 23rd, 1964, the Bureau contacted R. W. Botts, District Manager of the Winchester-Western Division of the Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation in Dallas who advised the F.B.I. that a division of Olin Industries manufactured "a quantity of 6.5 M/M Mannlicher-Carcano ammunition for the Italian Government during World War 11." After the war, the military rounds were sold to U.S. gun brokers and distributed "to wholesalers, retailers, and individual purchasers." An extensive telephone canvas was made by the Bureau of the Dallas-Irving area in an effort to locate sellers of 6.5 mm. Mannlicher-Carcano military rounds. The search narrowed to two gun shop owners: John Brinegar and John Thomas Masen. So, on March 26th, agents returned to Brinegar and Masen.

Brinegar "advised he purchased one case of 6.5 M/M Mannlicher-Carcano, Western Cartridge Company, ammunition from Century Arms Company, Alexandria, West Virginia, in 1962...." Brinegar stated "he sold about ten boxes of this ammunition to John Masen...in early 1963, and traded him another ten boxes later, possibly during the summer, 1963. He advised he has six boxes of this ammunition left at present."

Mr. Brinegar stated the 6.5 M/M rifle was rather common in the Dallas area....

.....

He explained that there were a number of different 6.5 M/M types of ammunition, but that only the ammunition manufactured by the Italians and the 6.5 M/M [Western Cartridge Company] Mannlicher-Carcano [rounds] could be used in the Italian Carcano rifle.

Obviously, Brinegar's 6.5 mm. Mannlicher-Carcano ammunition (some of which he sold to Masen) could be the *only* ammunition used by possessors of the 6.5 mm. Italian Mannlicher-Carcano rifle. Did either Brinegar or Masen sell rifle rounds to any such individuals? If so, to whom? Did either Brinegar or Masen own or have access to a 6.5 mm. Mannlicher-Carcano bolt-action carbine? We do not know whether the Fort Worth or Houston area (or for that matter, any other area in Texas or outside of Texas) was surveyed for 6.5 mm. rounds. But the F.B.I. established that, for the Dallas-Irving region, *only* Brinegar and Masen were sources of the 6.5 mm. ammunition.

Again John Masen was interviewed. Masen

...advised he purchased about ten boxes [from the original Brinegar case] of 6.5 M/M...ammunition from Johnny Brinegar in early 1963 and that he sold these ten boxes to individuals [who obviously were purchasing the rounds for Italian 6.5 mm. Mannlicher-Carcano rifles]. He stated he was unable to recall the identity of any persons to whom he sold this ammunition. *He claimed he sold this ammunition with a military round.* He advised if he had sold more than a box or two to any one person he would have remembered the sale. (italics added)

Were these *all* cash sales? Did Masen have no records whatsoever? Was the 6.5 mm. Mannlicher-Carcano rifle so common in the Dallas-Irving area that ten or fewer owners of the Italian rifle who had made recent purchases from either Masen or Brinegar could not be identified? And why did Masen feel it necessary to claim he sold only "military" rounds? Were rounds *other* than military available? Did the F.B.I. find significance in this availability? The Bureau report supplies at least a partial answer:

Mr. Brinegar stated he "pulled" the bullets from some of this ammunition and reloaded with a *hunting load (soft nose)* and others he sold with the military load.

Mr. Brinegar stated he did not know Lee Harvey Oswald, had no recollection of ever seeing him, and did not believe he had sold him any of *this type ammunition.* (italics added)

What "type ammunition"? Reloaded, soft-nosed, 6.5 mm. Mannlicher-Carcano rounds? Why was the F.B.I. interested in "this type ammunition"? By March 26th, 1964, hadn't both the Bureau and Warren Commission counsel determined that only military-jacketed rounds chambered in CE 139, allegedly examined by the F.B.I., the Mannlicher-Carcano had been fired at Dealey Plaza on November 22nd, 1963? Or was there some doubt? Had the spectrographic tests, and afterward, the Neutron Activation tests, invalidated CE 399 as ballistics evidence in the Kennedy assassination? Was the F.B.I. attempting to link soft-nosed rounds to Lee Harvey Oswald?

Mr. Masen stated he purchased another ten boxes of this same type ammunition from Brinegar [again, from the original Brinegar case purchase], date not recalled, but possibly during the summer of 1963. *He claimed this ammunition was being used principally for deer hunting and he "pulled" the bullets in the last batch and reloaded it with a hunting-type bullet (lead nose).* He advised he used a Herter's Bullet Puller in changing these bullets. He stated he had only two boxes of this ammunition at present. (italics added)

Did the F.B.I. ask Masen about the soft-nosed bullets, or did he volunteer this information? How many deer-hunting possessors of a 6.5 mm. Mannlicher-Carcano, Italian bolt-action rifle who had made purchases of reloaded 6.5 mm. rounds were there in the Dallas-Irving area in the summer of 1963?

Mr. Masen claimed he had never seen Lee Harvey Oswald, had no recollection of his ever having come to his place of business, and he never sold any of *this ammunition* to Oswald. (italics added)

The F.B.I. allegedly tested CE 139 - a 6.5 mm. Italian Mannlicher-Carcano rifle - with a number of rounds of 6.5 mm. rifle bullets. Researchers have assumed that the 6.5 mm. ammunition in the Bureau's possession was of the military, copper-alloy jacketed type, similar to CE 399. However,

On March 26, 1964, two boxes, 20 rounds each, of 6.5 M/M Mannlicher-Carcano, Western Cartridge Company, ammunition [from Brinegar's original case lot] were obtained for forwarding to the Laboratory of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. One box loaded with a hunting load (soft-nose) was obtained from John Thomas Masen and the other, which was a military load, was obtained from John H. Brinegar. (italics added)

As of March 26, 1964, the Federal Bureau of Investigation was in possession of 6.5 mm. soft-nosed Mannlicher-Carcano ammunition it obtained from John Thomas Masen of Dallas, Texas. What were the results of these F.B.I. tests? Were these soft-nosed rounds tested ballistically, spectrographically, and atomically? Were these lab results suppressed?

Whether the Masen/Brinegar 6.5 mm. rounds were tested by the F.B.I. or not, evidence of a possible conspiracy was available to the Warren Commission:

1. Alpha 66, violently anti-Castro and anti-Kennedy, one of whose Dallas officers was of concern to the Protective Research Division of the Treasury Department charged with investigating threats to the President: Manuel Rodriguez;
2. Manuel Rodriguez, seen in the company of an Oswald look-alike just days before the Kennedy assassination;
3. Alpha 66 and Rodriguez, meeting at 3126 Harlendale Ave. in Dallas, where a Dallas county sheriff's informant placed an Oswald look-alike just before the Kennedy assassination;
4. 3126 Harlendale, where Robert Morrow, former C.I.A. employee, asserts the plot to kill President Kennedy was planned, under the sponsorship of Alpha 66 and Manuel Rodriguez;
5. Manuel Rodriguez and Alpha 66, purchasing weapons illegally from a Dallas gunsmith under investigation by the Treasury Department;
6. John Thomas Masen, under investigation by the Treasury Department, gunsmith, crack shot, Minuteman, H.L. Hunt and Edwin Walker friend, Alpha 66 associate, convicted violator of the Federal Firearms Control Law, and a source for both 6.5 mm. Mannlicher-Carcano military rounds and 6.5 mm. soft-nosed fragmenting rounds, allegedly seen at the Sports Drome Rifle Range in the company of Minutemen and mistaken for Lee Harvey Oswald, and seen at a North Dallas house and again mistaken for Oswald;
7. John Fitzgerald Kennedy, murdered (in the light of the medical, ballistic, and spectrographic evidence) by rifle rounds of the frangible, soft-lead, hunting variety that buck-shotted through his neck and head.

These facts were known to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and to the Warren Commission counsel, and they were either ignored - or suppressed.

**The Arlington State College Link**

The last link in this Other Oswald story: was Wally Weston's Oswald-Ruby story corroborated in any way? And was there evidence available to the Warren Commission which could have led to the identification of Weston's Oswald look-alike? On April 14th, 1964, Andrew Armstrong, close friend of Jack Ruby and former employee of the Carousel Club's flamboyant owner, testified to the Weston heckling incident; according to Armstrong, Jack Ruby ejected a young man who had been heckling Weston after the master of ceremonies decked the heckler. Armstrong remembered that it was "around the last of September or somewhere along in there or October."

Mr. Hubert: How old a man was he?

Mr. Armstrong: Oh, about 21 or 22, I guess.

Mr. Hubert: How tall was he?

Mr. Armstrong: About 5 feet 9, something like that.

Mr. Hubert: What would be your estimate of his weight?

Mr. Armstrong: Not over 150 or 160.

.....

Mr. Hubert: Did you talk to Ruby about it afterwards?

Mr. Armstrong: No.

Mr. Hubert: Did you hear Ruby say anything about it afterwards?

Mr. Armstrong: No; Wally and I discussed it.

Mr. Hubert: What was the nature of that discussion?

Mr. Armstrong: Well, I was teasing him about his right hook.

Mr. Hubert: His what?

.....

Mr. Armstrong: His right hook.

Mr. Hubert: You mean he hit the guy pretty good?

Mr. Armstrong: You see, Wally split his hand open and I got some band-aids and bandaged it up a little bit and helped him clean it off.

According to Armstrong, when Wally Weston left in September of 1963, he "still had a scar -- it was still sort of open a little bit on his hand...it had healed, but it was such a big gash and you could still see the print where they took the stitches out." Clearly, the Weston incident and the Armstrong incident were one and the same. And Armstrong added an important detail:

Mr. Hubert: What sort of looking man was he?

Mr. Armstrong: He was a young fellow with two other young couples [later, Armstrong says "two men and a lady"] from Arlington State College - I think that's where he said he was from.

Mr. Hubert: Who told you that?

Mr. Armstrong: Well, that's what they said - that's what they had said, Wally had asked them where they was from and he said he was a student at Arlington - I'm sure they said Arlington.

Mr. Hubert: At where?

Mr. Armstrong: At Arlington College.

Mr. Hubert: At Arlington College?

Mr. Armstrong: Yes.

On March 26th, 1964, John Thomas Masen volunteered to F.B.I. agents that he had "put himself through college by working as a gunsmith [and] that he attended...*Arlington State College, Arlington, Texas...*" (italics added)

In recently-released Commission internal memoranda, Warren Commission counsel Hubert and Griffin, charged with pursuing the Commission's Jack Ruby investigation, attempted to follow up a possible Oswald-Ruby-Cuban connection, without receiving cooperation from investigating agencies (including the F.B.I. and the C.I.A.):

Possible links among Ruby, Oswald, and various Cuban groups are suggested...which have not been sufficiently investigated or substantiated.

.....

We have...suggested the theory that Ruby and Mrs. [Bertha] Cheek could have been involved in Cuban arms sales of which Oswald gained knowledge through his efforts to infiltrate the anti-Castro Cubans.

.....

We have suggested that Ruby might have killed Oswald out of fear that Oswald might implicate Ruby and his friends.... We think that neither Oswald's Cuban interests in Dallas nor Ruby's Cuban activities have been adequately explored.

.....

...we believe that the possibility exists, based on evidence already available, that Ruby was involved in illegal dealings with Cuban elements who might have had contact with Oswald. ...the present investigation has not focused on that area.

CD 23, CE 2694, and recently-released CD 853 all suggest that Hubert and Griffin were close to an important revelation: a possible anti-Castro



Cuban/Minutemen/Oswald look-alike/Ruby connection which might have told them how John F. Kennedy died on November 22nd, 1963.



## **CHAPTER 11**

### **AMBLOOD, JMWAVE, AND ALPHA 66: THE ODIO STORY AND "OSWALD" IN MEXICO CITY**

#### **Mr. Carlos X**

The Central Intelligence Agency withheld information from the Warren Commission on an underground Cuban organization funded by the Agency in Cuba to subvert the Cuban government and assassinate Premier Fidel Castro. Following the exposure of an assassination plot against the Cuban leader, a key organizer of the conspiracy fled to the United States, where he continued to plot against Castro, supported and paid for by the C.I.A., holding national office in a terrorist Cuban-exile group whose Dallas president has been accused by a former C.I.A. employee of plotting the assassination of John F. Kennedy. The Dallas Cuban leader had also fled Cuba after plotting against Castro. His Dallas branch of the terrorist organization later purchased illegal weapons from a Dallas gunsmith identified by a Treasury agent (responsible for his arrest on the charge of violating federal gun control laws) as an Oswald look-alike mistaken for Lee Harvey Oswald in several critical sightings in and around Dallas just prior to the Kennedy murder. The F.B.I. did not pursue an investigation of that same gunsmith whom the Bureau had established as one of the only two Dallas-area sources for both military and soft-nosed 6.5-mm. Mannlicher-Carcano bullets. The Treasury's Protective Research Section had knowledge that the Cuban exile group's officers were associating with the gunsmith, and that at least one of those officers was violently antagonistic to the President.

But the story does not end there; it includes the appearance of an Oswald look-alike at the Dallas residence of a woman whose family had earlier harbored some of the Castro assassination plotters in Cuba - and as one "Oswald" appeared in Dallas, at the same time another "Oswald" was allegedly in Mexico City, the possible intent of both to implicate Lee Harvey Oswald in a plot to kill the President.

The C.I.A., the Treasury Department, and the F.B.I. all had vital information about an anti-Castro assassination conspiracy which had suspicious links to the Dallas murders - and none of these agencies transmitted its crucial information in coherent form to the Warren Commission. But at least Chief Counsel J. Lee Rankin must have had enough of this information in his possession to demand an investigation of the anti-Castro group and its Miami, New Orleans, and Dallas connections. Rankin, however, seems to have ignored the significant leads.

The Cuban with whom the C.I.A. reportedly conspired to overthrow the Cuban government and assassinate Fidel Castro was Antonio Veciana: called "Mr. X" by columnist Jack Anderson on January 19th and 21st, 1977, when Veciana's secret testimony before the House Select Committee was leaked to the nationally-known writer; called "Carlos" by reporter Dick Russell in the June 24th, 1977, issue of *New Times*, in what was apparently another leak out of the House Select Committee.

Nothing of this web of relationships was aired in 1975, when the *Senate Intelligence Committee Report on Foreign Assassinations* was published: the fact of a thirteen-year relationship between this anti-Castro Cuban organization and the C.I.A., with a reported \$253,000 paid directly to an officer of the group supported and directed by the C.I.A., was suppressed.

The Cuban exile, Antonio Veciana, paid and controlled by his C.I.A. case officer, was a member of an anti-Castro underground in Cuba and a reputed Cuban government funds embezzler who ultimately helped found Alpha 66, one of the most famous and most violent of Cuban emigre' groups. Veciana has allegedly admitted to meeting his control, called by Veciana "Morris Bishop," an estimated 100 times in thirteen years, first in Havana, then in Miami, Chile, Las Vegas, and finally in Dallas just months before the Kennedy assassination.

According to several sources, in 1960, Veciana and a fellow group of accountants in Cuba initiated a complex plot to embezzle Cuban funds in order to bankroll the anti-Castro clandestine movement in Cuba - the first steps taken which

would result in the creation of Alpha 66. Antonio Veciana met his C.I.A. case officer in Havana under the name of "Morris Bishop." Bishop possessed a counterfeit Belgian passport, according to Veciana, allowing Bishop to enter Cuba easily and unnoticed. The anti-Castro leader also noted that Bishop spoke fluent French and Spanish. Whether Morris received his instructions through Mexico City or Miami, or whether Morris did not slip in and out of Cuba for his meetings with Veciana but was, at least in 1960, an undercover agent living in Havana, is not yet known. Support for covert operations against Castro was coming from the Miami C.I.A. office soon after the revolutionary leader's assumption of power in January, 1959. And what had been a small mainland listening post and de-briefing center began to grow prodigiously after Castro marched into Havana.

### **JMWAVE**

According to a former C.I.A. officer, the Agency expected Castro to break off relations soon after the revolution succeeded, and the Cuban desk anticipated the American Embassy in Havana would, of course, be closed, with the attendant termination of intelligence gathering and covert operations directed in part from the Embassy offices. The small Miami C.I.A. clearing-house therefore became the Miami Operations base, its cryptonym JMWAVE. JMWAVE's primary function would be to bolster and give logistical support to the anti-Castro movement both in and outside of Cuba. Havana operations would be transferred, without a break, to the enlarged Miami operational center when the anticipated expulsion from Cuba occurred.

Undercover groups like Antonio Veciana's underground were either in touch with, or part of, the C.I.A.'s "stay-behind" structure; according to one source, Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo, William Morgan, Antonio Veciana, and Luis Toroella were all among a number of anti-Castroites "affiliated" with the C.I.A. who were in place or, like Toroella, had received C.I.A. training and were sent back to Cuba for the Agency-directed attack on Castro. Toroella, a former Cuban government official, had returned from his Agency instruction to become chief of a C.I.A. Cuban-agent group located in Santiago, Cuba. Toroella's sabotage and assassination team had a striking cryptonym: AMBLOOD.

**AMBLOOD**

AMBLOOD and Luis Toroella - AMBLOOD-1 - operated as the apex of a C.I.A. triangle whose other two points were the JMWAVE Miami Operations base and the C.I.A. station in Quito, Ecuador. In Quito, Lieutenant-Colonel Roger Paredes, a retired Ecuadorian Army officer, held the post of Chief of the Ecuadorian Military Intelligence Service - S.I.M.E.. But as the C.I.A.'s ECJACK, Paredes began in 1959 to head a "surveillance and investigative" team of five men under his S.I.M.E. cover. In turn, Paredes was run by the C.I.A.'s Quito Station. As a part of the JMWAVE operation, the Quito C.I.A. was commissioned to supply "accommodation" addresses for the AMBLOOD agents. Paredes rented Quito post-office boxes which were assigned to AMBLOOD C.I.A. Cuban operatives. When JMWAVE wished to contact Toroella and his group, communications in "secret writing" were composed in Miami and sent by pouch to the Quito Station, where a "cover letter" was written by a C.I.A. employee. When AMBLOOD sent out intelligence or operations information, its agents would use the same liquid secret-writing technique, posting their letters to a Paredes-controlled post box. Lieutenant-Colonel Paredes would pick up the letters, deliver them to the Quito C.I.A. office, and Quito would in turn send them on the Miami JMWAVE.

In August, 1960, a C.I.A. officer in Washington, D.C. learned that he would probably be sent to the Quito Station no later than Christmas. His cover job would be as Assistant Attache' in the Quito American Embassy's political section. Ostensibly, he would be a Foreign Service Officer of the United States Department of State. In December, just before the holiday, he was at work in Quito, as promised, and had taken over his first two clandestine operations: ECJACK and AMBLOOD. The Quito C.I.A. officer was Philip Agee.

A part of the AMBLOOD operation was the liquid writing communications program which had been handled by a separate C.I.A. employee. Agee also took over this correspondence phase of the operation, and began cabling JMWAVE the intelligence messages. By January 4th, 1961, Agee learned that *all* correspondence and cables that had previously been sent to the Havana C.I.A. station would now go to JMWAVE, Miami. By January 29th, Agee had been trained in the use of the liquid writing system and could now be in direct touch with the AMBLOOD agents in Cuba. JMWAVE cabled messages to Quito and Agee; the C.I.A. officer wrote to Toroella and his agents, and they wrote back; and the information developed was cabled by Agee to the Miami Operations base.

It is not clear whether the Veciana-Toroella assassination plan against Fidel Castro was put into effect before or after the Bay of Pigs invasion in mid-April. But by September, 1961, the results were known: the assassination attempt was a failure, of course; and the agents associated with AMBLOOD and Veciana's undercover group were scattered and in hiding, captured, or executed. Like the C.I.A.'s Bay of Pigs operation, the AMBLOOD-JMWAVE assassination plot was a disaster.

### **The Bazooka Attempt**

In 1961, evidence suggests that Antonio Veciana's group and Luis Toroella's AMBLOOD were working together on an assassination attempt against Fidel Castro. One of Veciana's conspirators was Reinaldo Gonzales, a fellow accountant and Cuban bank official, the former head of an anti-Batista Bank Workers Union. According to one report, the plotters had enlisted the aid of Veciana's mother, who had rented an apartment less than two blocks from Castro's Presidential Palace. According to another account, the attempt would take place near Havana's sports complex. Both versions agree that the plotters intended to employ bazookas to blow up the bearded Premier.

Philip Agee reported his concern for the AMBLOOD agents; only five or six communications had been transmitted through April, 1961, and not much intelligence had been gathered. AMBLOOD-1 had "large sums of money" at his disposal, a C.I.A.-supplied arsenal of weapons, and a "yacht," but Agee knew that Toroella was being run by JMWAVE radio as well as the Quito station communications network. By September 25, 1961, Agee's fears were confirmed; Quito's *El Comercio* carried a front-page story on the discovery of the assassination plot, including AMBLOOD's Quito communication link. Agee had not been informed of AMBLOOD's planned bazooka attack, and the security of his ECJACK/S.I.M.E. operation was threatened. The captured C.I.A. agents had told a great deal, but the Ecuadorian press stories made no mention of the Paredes post-office box connection.

Castro's secret police had uncovered the conspiracy, and Antonio Veciana and his mother fled to safe exile in Miami. Reinaldo Gonzales, however, hid on a farm owned by a millionaire Cuban businessman, a veteran of the fight against Fulgencio Batista. Once a Castro supporter, the affluent Cuban farm owner had turned against the Cuban leader. According to one source, Castro's police traced Reinaldo Gonzales to the farm, arrested him, and extracted from Gonzales the details of the aborted bazooka plot. It is possible that it was Gonzales who led Castro's investigators to the entire AMBLOOD operation: one report indicated the Veciana associate had been tortured. The Quito press stories were quite detailed.

The owners of the farm were Amador Odio-Padron and Sara del Toro, the parents of Sylvia Odio. Originally supporters of Fidel Castro, Sylvia Odio's parents had become disaffected with the Cuban Premier, joining Manolo Ray in their sentiments. Earlier, while Castro organized his mountain fighters, Ray had developed Castro's support among the people of Havana, leading a general strike against their common enemy, Batista. When Castro assumed power, Manolo Ray was appointed Minister of Public Works, staying with the Castro regime for almost a year before he defected from Cuba. In late 1960, just a few months after arriving in the United States, Manolo Ray organized the MRP which, according to E. Howard Hunt, was known derisively among conservatively oriented Cuban exiles as "Fidelismo sin Fidel." Through 1961 and 1962, Ray's relations with the various Cuban exile leaders and the C.I.A. worsened. When it was clear that Ray was no longer wanted (he was not consulted about the Bay of Pigs operation), and when it was obvious that the combined forces of the SNFE, the November 30th Movement, and Alpha 66 (all of which were led in Dallas by Manuel Ocarberro Rodriguez) had effectively silenced Ray's MRP, Ray resigned and organized JURE. The Odio family was deeply involved with the Ray movement both in Cuba and the United States. They had worked with Aureliano Sanchez Arango after they became disenchanted with the Castro mystique; and they had hidden Manolo Ray on their farm before his escape to the mainland.

One account reported the Odios had been jailed because a hidden store of weapons had been discovered on their farm; a second report attributed their arrest to the Gonzales exposure. The two stories are probably versions of the same event. Both Amador Odio-Padron and Sara del Toro were sent to prison. Later, Sara del Toro was released; Amador Odio-Padron remained in the Neuva Gerona prison on the Isle of Pines. By the end of 1961, AMBLOOD-1, Luis Toroella, was dead by execution; Reinaldo Gonzales, captured and tortured; Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo, jailed; William Morgan, dead by execution; Antonio Veciana, escaped to America. But JMWAVE had been recruiting "cowboys": soldiers of fortune, veterans of a dozen wars, mercenaries. When the Bay of Pigs invasion failed, JMWAVE Miami would have its soldiers, and, together, the "cowboys" and the Brigade survivors would carry on a terrible commando war against Castro.

### **"Morris Bishop" and Alpha 66**

Antonio Veciana was in Miami only a few weeks after his escape from Cuba when "Morris Bishop" re-established contact with him, assisting Veciana in organizing a group of Cuban veterans, former revolutionaries who had been loyal



Castroites but had, for a variety of reasons, become foes of Castro. This Miami-based Veciana group was the original core of Alpha 66. Alpha 66 and the other commando-style Cuban exiles drew their logistical support, and sometimes their Agency leadership, from the JMWAVE Miami station which had been transformed by Theodore Shackley. Shackley had been brought home from Berlin by the Agency to study the possibility of what would be called the C.I.A.'s "secret war" on Castro's Cuba. In February, 1962, he was at the Miami station, and its escalated growth was a certainty. The cover name for JMWAVE was "Zenith Technical Enterprises," and its main physical plant was a former U.S. Navy lighter-than-aircraft center on the University of Miami's south campus. From that focus, fifty-four proprietary corporations fanned out, giving cover work to JMWAVE case officers and agents not based in Zenith. With an operational budget of more than \$50 million, JMWAVE was a hierarchical structure of about 300 American C.I.A. case officers, each controlling an average of six "principal" Cuban agents who, in turn, controlled an average of twenty "regular" agents. The whole apparatus was supported by C.I.A. and military people contracted by the Agency.

About the time that Antonio Veciana made contact with Bishop in Miami, the JMWAVE station was running relatively-small paramilitary attacks against Cuba, landing commando or terrorist units which would penetrate short distances into the island, hit their targets, and exit quickly. Soon, larger objectives were being singled out: refineries, generating plants, sugar mills. Despite the heavy inroad the Bay of Pigs made into available Cuban-exile manpower, groups like Alpha 66 still found their soldiers in the Miami-area Cuban exile community. JMWAVE recruited them all, often sending them to Central America for paramilitary training in weaponry, tactics, explosives, communications. In the late summer of 1961, the JMWAVE raids became more elaborate and ambitious. Veciana and Alpha 66 began a campaign of terrorist activity based in the United States, military commando attacks against Castro which were, at first, irritating harrassments but soon became major destructive missions. Veciana has admitted that after the Cuban Missile Crisis, C.I.A. officer Bishop originated Alpha 66 commando attacks on Russian merchant ships in Cuban ports, the kind of illegal and clandestine raid which would eventually result in President John Kennedy curtailing and then cancelling Alpha-66 type activities in 1963.

In 1962, after the Soviets had seemingly withdrawn their missiles, Veciana's case officer suspected Kennedy of making a secret agreement with the Russians, giving the Soviets what amounted to a free, if covert, hand in Cuba. Bishop's intention, according to Veciana, was to use Alpha 66 - and groups like it - as

leverage, prying the Kennedy rock loose from what would become its moritorium soil. Kennedy would be forced to make a positive decision in the wake of successful Alpha 66 achievements, Bishop was supposed to have told Veciana. About a year after the failure of the AMBLOOD assassination attempt, Veciana had become an officer in the national organization of Alpha 66, leading effective paramilitary raids from Florida and the port cities in the Gulf.

After a series of attacks against Cuban targets which gained media coverage in both the local and national press in 1962, Veciana held a news conference in Washington, according to the Alpha 66 leader, "to let [Kennedy] know about the [Alpha 66] commando raids." Veciana's clear intention, probably on Bishop's orders, was to provoke a Kennedy response. He boasted having raised \$100,000 for his terrorist activities, funds which were either supplied (or in great part raised) by the Agency. A vast network of anti-Castro operators and groups maintained an informal cooperative grid whose energy source was JMWAVE and its financial and logistical support. Veciana was in touch with other anti-Castro plotters like Manuel Artime, for example, a C.I.A. favorite and key Bay of Pigs Brigade leader.

In March, 1963, Alpha 66 was reported to have attacked two Russian freighters and a Russian military installation; protests resulted in the joint State-Justice promise that no raids on Cuba would hereafter originate from the United States.

### **The Moratorium**

In Washington, the Kennedy administration had been conducting a Cuban policy review beginning in January, 1963. By May of that year, the Kennedy moratorium was taking its effect, and June and July saw a new Kennedy public policy aired for both Cuba and the world; by August, 1963, Kennedy had decided on a Cuban accommodation: federal raids against anti-Castro Cuban plotters were making the news, and William Attwood would soon begin negotiations for a Cuban-American detente; official American support for operations like Alpha 66 and the other anti-Castro organizations funded or run by JMWAVE was withdrawn. Warnings were issued to both the Cuban exile leaders and to the C.I.A. cowboys and mercenaries to cease their anti-Cuban actions, including a warning to Frank Sturgis, then working with Carlos Prio Socarras and other anti-Castroites and mercenaries (including Gerry Patrick Hemming). Sturgis's and Hemmings' International Anti-Communist Brigade and Interpen were cautioned to back off. Many of the Anti-Castro Cubans, associates of Antonio Veciana, Manuel Artime, Carlos

Bringuier, Carlos Prio, Frank Sturgis, Gerry Patrick Hemming, and Loran Eugene Hall, moved further right, allying themselves both with anti-Castro Minutemen and top Syndicate figures, including Meyer Lansky's delegates, the McLaney brothers (at least one of whom had worked for the C.I.A.). The arrests and raids by the F.B.I. and the Treasury increased; the pressure on the whole anti-Cuban movement became intolerably heavy by late summer, 1963.

Veciana's activities in Miami and later in Dallas came to the attention of the House Select Committee on Assassinations, though the Committee's focus was ominous. Antonio Veciana testified before the Committee that in August, 1963, in a Dallas office building, Morris Bishop brought another man with him to meet Veciana. According to Veciana, Bishop's reason for bringing his companion was not given. "The guy never talked," according to Veciana. The Alpha 66 officer said that he eventually recognized his C.I.A. case officer's companion as Lee Harvey Oswald when he saw the alleged assassin on television.

But Veciana might not have had to wait until the assassination before recognizing Bishop's non-talkative "Oswald." Veciana might have met him, even worked with him, at 3126 Harlendale Ave., along with fellow Alpha 66 officer Manuel Rodriguez. Veciana might have been testifying about someone he recognized was not the historic Oswald but rather the "other Oswald" known to Treasury Agent Frank Ellsworth and to Manuel Rodriguez of Alpha 66. Veciana's "Oswald" stayed with Bishop and Veciana for 10 or 15 minutes. "He did not say one word. He was very quiet, very strange," according to Veciana (Veciana's "Oswald" reminds us of Sylvia Odio's "Oswald"). Bishop was then supposed to have said, "See you later," and the Veciana "Oswald" left.

About one month later, according to Warren Commission records, the series of Second Oswald sightings intensified in the Dallas area. One incident, in particular, suggests that Veciana's "Oswald" might have been part of a plot to implicate the historic Oswald in what was intended to look like a "left-wing," Cuban-exile assassination scheme.

### **Sylvia Odio**

The Sylvia Odio "Oswald" story is too well known to merit yet another recounting in detail. What is important here is to recall the AMBLOOD-Veciana-Gonzales planned bazooka attack on Fidel Castro, and Gonzales' capture on the farm of Amador Odio-Padron and Sara del Toro, the Cuban

parents of Sylvia Odio. For their involvement in the Ray movement and their alleged complicity in the bazooka assassination plot, the Odios were imprisoned, though Sara del Toro was freed. Sylvia Odio's father remained a Castro prisoner on the Isle of Pines. Sylvia Odio, in F.B.I. interviews and in her testimony before the Warren Commission, maintained that three men visited her in Dallas on September 26th or 27th, 1963 (the beginning of the heaviest Other Oswald incidents). Her visitors identified themselves as anti-Castroites, members of the Cuban Revolutionary Council and Manolo Ray's JURE. They asserted that they were friends of her imprisoned father, knew details of the Odio family's past activities in the anti-Castro movement, and quoted to Sylvia Odio an important and telling detail: her father's anti-Castro underground cryptonym.

Two of the men, Latin Americans (possibly Mexican, according to Odio), gave her their alleged war names: "Leopoldo" and, she thought, "Angelo." The third was introduced to her as "Leon Oswald."

The man who called himself "Leopoldo" allegedly phoned Mrs. Odio the day after the visit and characterized "Leon Oswald" as a rather kinky ex-Marine who seemed to advocate assassinating President Kennedy because of the Bay of Pigs failure. Later, when Sylvia Odio saw a picture of the historic Lee Harvey Oswald after his arrest, she said she recognized him as "Leon Oswald."

The Warren Commission accepted the fact of the Odio visit, but rejected Odio's identification of Lee Harvey Oswald as one of her three visitors, since the *Commission's* Oswald was supposed to be in Mexico City at the time the three men confronted Sylvia Odio. Still, several Commission counsel maintained that, corroborated and credible, the Odio "Oswald" story remained one of the major clues to the mystery which the Warren Commission never really solved. The Commission relied heavily on the evidence which the C.I.A. supplied to place the historic Oswald in Mexico City at the time of the Odio "Oswald" visit, though the evidence suggests someone may have been impersonating Oswald in Mexico City. Then was the *real* Lee Harvey Oswald visiting Sylvia Odio - or was he neither in Mexico nor with "Leopoldo" and "Angelo?"

The reports of F.B.I. contacts with persons associated with (1) C.I.A./anti-Castro operations and (2) the other Oswald sightings do not increase our confidence in the objectivity of the Kennedy assassination investigation in 1963-1964. Antonio Veciana has admitted to being interrogated by the F.B.I. after the Dallas murder. Veciana was worried, he said, "But the [F.B.I.] agent who

interviewed me said it was a matter of routine, nothing important. I didn't tell the agent anything, because I thought it would harm [Alpha 66]." Even more provocative than the Veciana statement is the analysis two Kennedy researchers have made of F.B.I. reports of the Odio visit; they suggest that the tone of the Commission's examination of the Sylvia Odio story was set by Bureau inquiries which the assassination writers conclude were submitted by "CIA-linked" F.B.I. agents - James P. Hosty and Bardwell D. Odum; for example:

The individual who called Miss ODIO... stated he was not going to have anything further to do with LEON OSWALD since he considered him to be "loco." This individual known only as LEOPOLDO stated OSWALD did not appear sincere. He [Oswald] told them he was an ex-marine and could help them in the [anti-Castro] underground however he appeared to be very cynical and seemed to think that all Cubans hated all Americans.

Nothing is said in the Hosty and Odum report about Odio's disbelieving the men; nothing is said about Odio's not coming to the police or the F.B.I., but speaking to her priest, and, afterward, an associate of the priest in Catholic relief work contacting the F.B.I. And, as the researchers point out, despite the importance the Commission staff gave to the story, Odio did not appear before the Warren Commission as a witness until July, 1964. Sylvia Odio's sister was capable of confirming the story that her sister told: that the men said they had just come from New Orleans; that they hoped she could finance their Cuban exile operations; that she refused. If the F.B.I. agents who conducted the interviews either discounted the importance of the inquiry (as in Veciana's case), or clearly injected their own negative tonality into their report (as in the Hosty-Odum document), Warren Commission counsel *always* took the Odio story seriously. In August, 1964, J. Lee Rankin felt the Odio contradiction was still alive and asked J. Edgar Hoover to resolve it. Hoover produced Loran Eugene Hall, a C.I.A.-associated, anti-Castro mercenary with reputed Syndicate ties, who first admitted he was one of the visitors with two of his friends, then retracted his story. As the Warren Report was being printed, no resolution of the Odio case had been made. In September, 1964, Rankin brusquely ordered Wesley Liebler, it is reported, to drop his interest in the unexplained "Leon Oswald" visit to Sylvia Odio. If the historic Oswald did not take the celebrated bus trip to Mexico City, then the Odio incident would suggest that Oswald might have penetrated an anti-Castro group whose possible intention was to kill the President and blame the Cuban exiles' left wing - with Lee Harvey Oswald (unknowingly) as its patsy. The Odio story did not go away.

### Mexico City

The C.I.A. seems to have convinced the Warren Commission to accept the Agency's story (whether it believed it or not) that Lee Harvey Oswald was in Mexico City when Sylvia Odio maintained that a "Leon Oswald" - identical to the Oswald she observed after his Dallas arrest - was visiting her. Around the Oswald in Mexico City report was a whole anthology of spurious Oswald stories linking him to Cuban intelligence, to assassination pay-offs, and to conspiratorial meetings whose intent was the murder of the president. Some were easily seen through; others were more difficult to reject. All of the false Oswald stories seemed to come from a group of anti-Castro mercenaries and Cuban exiles associated with a complex set of gun-smuggling, narcotics-handling, and clandestine operations with bases in Miami, Dallas, New Orleans, and Central and South America. One such story was only recently aired to investigators for the House Select Committee on Assassinations, involving Morris Bishop and Antonio Veciana.

In 1964, possibly in April when Veciana was reported to have visited the Dallas Alpha 66 headquarters in Dallas and allegedly spoke to its members (and with layer upon layer of false "Oswald" stories being peeled away without Commission investigators successfully resolving outstanding questions like the Mexico City trip and the Sylvia Odio visit), Morris Bishop is reported to have asked Antonio Veciana to communicate with his cousin, Guillermo Ruiez, an employee of the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City. Bishop is said to have offered to pay Ruiez and his wife to testify falsely that they had met with Lee Harvey Oswald in Mexico City sometime after September 26th, 1963. Veciana was to relay his C.I.A. case officer's bribe offer to his cousin. One commentator has suggested the motivation: placing Oswald outside of Dallas (further negating the Odio story) and increasing suspicion of Cuban-government involvement in the assassination. According to one source, Ruiez was supposed to be one of Fidel Castro's "top intelligence" people, though such inflation is not uncommon in the Kennedy case. Veciana reported he asked Bishop if the story were true, and Bishop was alleged to have responded that the only important thing was to get Veciana's cousin to swear that it was true. This obvious conspiracy to implicate the historic Oswald in what would have been seen as a possible Cuban plot to kill the president was, according to Veciana, dropped.

Instead, the C.I.A., in what now seems a massive effort to divert attention away from Sylvia Odio's testimony, cited certain secret tapes in 1976 and 1977 as evidence for Oswald's visits to both the Soviet and Cuban embassies in Mexico City. But earlier, the Agency never captured the Commission's belief in the matter; almost immediately after the Commission's birth, the question was asked:

Commissioner Russell:

Who has been doing the investigating  
in Mexico?

Chief Counsel J. Lee

Rankin:

The CIA has been working with us  
in regard to that area, and the FBI  
has an attache' there who has done  
some work but most of it has been  
by the C.I.A..

The question Senator Russell raised in secret Executive Session on January 27th, 1964, was to haunt the Commission through its short lifetime, and the question would demand a fuller answer thirteen years after.

### **The C.I.A. Counterdiction**

By September, 1975, the drive to re-open the Kennedy assassination in Congress was at its strongest. On September 23rd, 1975, the *Baltimore News American* reported that an unidentified source "close to CIA operations at the time" had said that the C.I.A. knew Lee Harvey Oswald, "in league with others," had plotted the death of John F. Kennedy two months before the Dallas assassination. The "source" was alleged to have told the *Baltimore News American* that C.I.A. agents had put the vital information together in Mexico City, but the Director of the C.I.A. did not get the report until the morning of November 22nd, 1963. The *Baltimore News American* source suggested that either the conspiracy information was not taken too seriously or the report "was deliberately delayed." The most interesting *News American* revelation was that the Agency "had an undercover man at a session during which Oswald and others discussed assassination plans while Oswald was visiting Mexico City in September 1963." As far as I know no Kennedy researcher suggested the following possibility (though I proposed it at a public presentation in Connecticut on September 24th, 1975): the C.I.A.'s "undercover man," if such a meeting ever occurred, could very well have been Lee Harvey Oswald himself.

The C.I.A.'s counterattack had begun. A newsperson with admitted ties to the Agency who had been in the past either the source of, or the conduit for, stories linking Oswald with American intelligence, was now working for the *Baltimore*

*News American*: Lonnie Hudkins. Possibly Hudkins knew who the unidentified newspaper "source" was. Another possibility was that the *News American* "source" allegedly close to C.I.A. operations "at the time" was not that close, and the paper was reporting a dark version of what would become the biggest C.I.A. revelation of 1975 about "Oswald." Senator Frank Church seems to have allowed his Senate Intelligence Committee to be side-tracked at the moment it was delving into reports of foreign assassinations which eventually focused on the C.I.A.'s sponsorship of attempts on Fidel Castro involving Syndicate figures and anti-Castro Cubans. According to the *New York Times* on September 21st, 1975, that paper needed only to make "inquiries" before the Central Intelligence Agency disgorged its confession: the Agency had withheld "Oswald" evidence from the Warren Commission. As the UPI reported on September 22nd, 1975, the Senate Intelligence Committee "quickly" turned its easily-distracted attention to the C.I.A. revelations. Again, the focus was on Lee Harvey Oswald, and like the gratifying controversy about Oswald's brown paper bag, it was overlooked that concentration on the Mexico City trip with the C.I.A. supplying information allowed the Agency to control the direction and focus of the Kennedy assassination inquiry.

The length of the "unusual" statement the *New York Times* was able to elicit so easily should be noted; and despite the probable intention: (1) to introduce misinformation and (2) change the direction of the growing Kennedy inquiry, the C.I.A. announcement had its importance:

On October 9, 1963 Central Intelligence headquarters received information that a person named Lee Oswald contacted the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City in late September or early October, 1963. In transmitting the information on 10 October 1963 Central Intelligence Agency headquarters said Lee Oswald was probably identical to Lee Henry (sic) Oswald....

The Agency maintained it spread the Oswald gospel, based on F.B.I. biographical material, to the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the Navy Department, the U.S. Ambassador and his staff in Mexico, and to the F.B.I. representative in Mexico City.

Following the assassination of President Kennedy, Central Intelligence Agency records revealed that a person believed to be Oswald was in contact with the Cuban Embassy on 27 September 1963....



...a number of photographs of individuals believed to be in contact with the Cuban and Soviet Embassies in Mexico City were received from the Central Intelligence Agency station in Mexico and were compared with pictures of Lee Harvey Oswald by C.I.A. officers in Mexico City and C.I.A. headquarters and by United States authorities in Dallas, Texas. It was determined that none of these photographs was a photograph of Lee Harvey Oswald.

In a swift collapsing of time, the C.I.A. now asserted that it had given its full information to both the Warren Commission *and* the Rockefeller Commission. Since we know that statement to be manifestly untrue for the Warren panel, and since, according to one source, Vice President Rockefeller strongly suggested in private to C.I.A. Director Colby that he not testify fully about Agency activities to the Rockefeller Commission, the *New York Times* "inquiries" to which the Agency responded so fully smelled like a cooperative media plant with secondary benefits: the Senate Intelligence Committee could worry over the "disclosure," and the media could feature Oswald (complete with his battered post-arrest face) in its accompanying photographs (rather than display prominently, for example, Odum Exhibit 1, the non-Oswald "Oswald" picture allegedly taken when "Oswald" was supposed to be making those suspicious visits to the Soviets and Cubans). And the Kennedy critics and activists would be diverted again. If they had gotten behind this important cover-up quickly, they would have found significant leads bringing them back to the Sylvia Odio story, the most probable target of the C.I.A. "confession," though Odio's story was never mentioned in the Agency's response to the *New York Times* inquiries; and they would find themselves at the doorstep of the survivors of the AMBLOOD-Alpha 66 wars: Antonio Veciana and his C.I.A. case officer, Morris Bishop.



## CHAPTER 12

### A GS-18 IN RETIREMENT

#### After the Night Watch

Seymour Hersh broke the story in December, 1974: according to the *New York Times* investigative reporter, the C.I.A. had been involved in "massive" domestic operations targeted against American "dissidents," and a respected and important C.I.A. officer, James Angleton (who had headed the Agency's assassination inquiry), was accused of directing the domestic spy operation for the Agency. Soon, President Ford appointed the Rockefeller Commission to investigate the Hersh allegations, and committees like Senate Intelligence cranked up their machinery. According to a twenty-five-year C.I.A. veteran holding the highest rank a Company employee could earn (other than being appointed Deputy Director or Director of the Agency by the President), GS-18, C.I.A. morale had "plummeted" to a record low in February, 1975. Chills ran through headquarters at Langley as Schorr and Hersh, Agee, Marchetti, and Marks pummelled the reeling C.I.A. - at least according to the C.I.A. GS-18 officer, David Atlee Phillips. Phillips reported that he had watched television shows featuring the newsmen and the former C.I.A. employees critical of the Agency and had become "dejected." After viewing Tom Snyder allow Philip Agee to slip away from what Phillips felt would have been an important question - why Agee had visited Cuba while writing his expose' of the Agency - the high-ranking C.I.A. officer consulted with his wife and informed her of his decision: it had occurred to Phillips that a senior C.I.A. person now was needed out there in the cold wind of the hostile media, in the "arena," as Phillips put it. So David Atlee Phillips had decided to leave his "peculiar" service (as he called it) to engage in the "public controversy about intelligence." Phillips has reported he chose early May, 1975, as his departure time from his important post as Chief of Latin American and Caribbean Operations. Phillips had transmitted to Director William Colby his intention to lecture, "write some," and to form a nation-wide organization of retired intelligence operatives (regardless of service). The order in which Phillips placed these retirement plans was, to say the least, anti-climactic.

According to GS-18 Phillips, William Colby suggested he might just stay in the C.I.A. (and still write, lecture, and organize the entire retired American intelligence community?). No, Phillips, said; and Director Colby, "soldier-priest" of the C.I.A., wished him well. No talk of the oath of secrecy, no suggestion Phillips might check out his future possible revelations with the Company. Obviously Colby could not tell who the bad guys were, but he could always tell who the good guys were.

David Atlee Phillips has told the story of his distinguished C.I.A. career in an often-readable book, *The Night Watch*. I think he will not mind, therefore, if I suggest that his book's *Preface* contains two of its most important pages, in which he summarizes what he hopes his reader will believe are the justifications for a man of such achievement and still greater potential (one of the odds-on favorites to become the Chief of the Clandestine Service within his last eight years prior to mandatory retirement from the C.I.A.) to quit the Company in its own defense. It is a difficult argument to buy.

### David Atlee Phillips

If one mounted the careers of Theodore Shackley of JMWAVE and David Atlee Phillips on two transparencies and over-laid them, the result would be a history of the C.I.A.'s greatest failures and accomplishments. Phillips were born in Ft. Worth, Texas, attended Texas Christian University, and always maintained strong ties, of course, with the Dallas-Ft. Worth area. In the Second World War, Phillips spent his time in the nose turret of a B-24: twenty-four missions flown out of a base in Italy. Eventually shot down and captured, he escaped with help from a Frenchman Phillips called "Pierre." The Frenchman took down Phillips' Texas address, and, six months after the war, corresponded with him. We are not told whether the Frenchman spoke or wrote English, or whether Phillips knew French.

David Atlee Phillips was in Chile from 1950 through 1953 on his first overseas Agency tour; from there, he went to Guatemala in 1954. In fact, Chapter 2 of his book is called, simply, "Guatemala 1954." But it contains an important note; Phillips reported that everyone involved in the C.I.A. overthrow of the Arbenz government was pleased with the outcome, and that most of them would "participate in the planning of another operation" still to come: the Bay of Pigs. Those Agency planners who shared both Guatemala and the Bay of Pigs were Richard Bissell, Tracy Barnes, E. Howard Hunt, and David Atlee Phillips.

From Guatemala, Phillips went (1) to Washington, and from C.I.A. headquarters, (2) to Cuba, 1955 through 1957, (3) to Lebanon in 1957 and 1958, and (4) back to Cuba for the end of the Batista regime, 1955 through 1959. In Washington, 1960-1961, Phillips participated in (5) the planning of the Bay of Pigs; then it was (6) the Mexico City station from 1962 to 1964, (7) the Dominican Republic, 1965-1967, (8) Washington again in 1968 and 1969, (9) Brazil from 1970 through 1972, allegedly ending his career with the Company and (10) in Washington through 1975.

Since Phillips reported that he cannot tell us everything, and since some incidents and whole years are passed off almost as "side-bars" to his often entertaining career memorial, we can be forgiven if we sometimes wonder about the understructure of his "minor" revelations. For example: while in Lebanon, he was supposed to have made the chance acquaintance of an unnamed "rich Texan" whose "informal and unpaid representative" Phillips became "in the Middle East." Because the Texan traveled a number of times from Dallas to Beirut, the cover was "not too thin." Phillips also reported that he helped the accomodating Texan in his "attempt" to gain control of a "Middle Eastern petroleum company" from none other than Aristotle Onassis. As George O'Toole has suggested, our world may not be as large and as random as we often perceive it to be.

Phillips added what seemed to be a self-deprecating note to his "wealthy Texan" story that again allows us to wonder. Phillips wished, he said, that he had been "reimbursed...for several hundred dollars in expenses," mostly telephone calls to the Texan's Middle Eastern oil interests. According to Phillips, he was reprimanded for his "ad hoc cover arrangement." The "problems" which would have been created had his cover story been "blown" would have included damage to the "Texan's business interests." The whole Texan interlude sounds like a cover story about a cover story.

As Phillips pointed out, in Beirut, the "French heritage was evident everywhere," especially in the French cuisine offered in the city's "fine restaurants." The children had to "struggle with French and Italian," but their parents "made innumerable friends of many nationalities." It seems doubtful the C.I.A. would have sent such an officer to Lebanon who did not speak at least passable French, but David Atlee Phillips never tells us whether he could order directly from the menu. We do learn that Phillips was fluent in Spanish.

Phillips maintained he resigned from the Agency in order to go into business in Havana, Cuba. According to Phillips, Colonel J.C. King himself, Chief of the C.I.A.'s Western Hemisphere Division, asked him to "reconsider the decision" and return to Cuba as an Agency staff officer. According to Phillips, he declined. He did agree, however, to sign a C.I.A. contract "for a small monthly stipend" and be on call if and when the Havana Station Chief needed him "on a compatible part-time basis." In other words, David Atlee Phillips was at least a part-time contract employee of the C.I.A. when he was ostensibly in private business in Havana.

We are given fascinating and valuable insights into the Cuban-invasion planning at Langley, Virginia, and in Washington; curiously, Deputy Director General Charles P. Cabell is demeaned through two pages of Phillips' Bay of Pigs recital, finally being called "Old Rice and Beans."

### **Just Another Blip**

According to Phillips, the "most crucial development" in his four-year Mexico City tour occurred in the autumn of 1963, at the time just "another blip on the station's radar screen" that an attentive officer might notice on his lonely night watch; according to the C.I.A. career man, it "did not seem important" at the time. To understand the full significance of this "most crucial development" which the Mexico City Station noticed but allegedly found of no importance, we must move forward in time, for a moment, to one year after the C.I.A. released its "Oswald" revelation in response to the *New York Times*' "inquiries." On October 5th, 1976, in the *Los Angeles Times*, Times staff writer Norman Kempster published an article which was subsequently sent out as an *L.A. Times Service* story; it was republished extensively, sometimes with minor editing at the end of the piece, on October 7th and 8th, 1976. The Agency had released 2,400 censored pages under pressure from Freedom of Information requests filed by a number of Kennedy researchers and Warren Commission critics. The *New York Times* "inquiries" could be seen in important perspective with the knowledge that, though the paper might only have had to call up the Agency, the private citizen needed to exercise his freedom under threat of law enforcement before the Agency responded to legitimate requests for information - which should have been in the public record for twelve years.

Kempster noted that, though the Agency had declassified practically its whole Oswald file, the Agency continued to withhold those pages relating to Oswald's alleged Mexico City visit between September 26th and October 3rd, 1963. The source of that missing information appeared in the documents as "SENSITIVE CIA

SOURCE." The article pointed out that the Warren Commission concluded (1) "that Oswald was the lone assassin," and (2) "that he [allegedly] visited both the Soviet and Cuban embassies during his [alleged] stay in Mexico City." Since the article was based on materials supplied by "private assassination investigators Bernard Fensterwald and George O'Toole," either Kempster himself was not using the obligatory "alleged," or some important trade-offs had occurred in placing the story. It is tiresome to repeat, but the conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald visited Mexico in September and October of 1963 is a Warren Commission *speculation* based on *uncorroborated* and *incomplete* information supplied by the C.I.A. to the Commission. Kempster followed his unmodified statements of an "Oswald" visit to Mexico City with another Agency shot. The C.I.A. reported later that Oswald "probably" contacted Valeriy V. Kostikov, an alleged agent of the K.G.B. operating as a Russian diplomat. Kostikov, according to the Agency, was with the K.G.B. section that "handled kidnappings, assassinations, and similar acts of political terror." Coming from the American department that "handled kidnapping, assassinations and similar acts of political terror," this inflammatory insertion might at least have been printed with its "probably" in capital letters.

Kempster presented the Fensterwald-O'Toole hypothesis more than adequately after the former nod to the Agency, pointing out that Warren Commission critics have long questioned the whole idea of a Mexican trip, several suggesting that an imposter used Oswald's identity at either the Soviet or Cuban embassies, or both. Kempster pointed out that recently-released Agency cables seemed to prove the C.I.A. had incorrectly called "Oswald" a still-unidentified man who visited the Soviet embassy when the Mexico City C.I.A. station thought Oswald was there.

At the time that David Atlee Phillips worked at the Mexico City Station, the C.I.A. monitored sophisticated "surveillance and photographic equipment" which kept track of all visitors to the Cuban and Soviet embassies. On October 10th, 1963, the Mexico City Station dispatched a secret teletype to the F.B.I., the Navy Department, and the State Department:

On 1 October 1963 a reliable and sensitive source in Mexico reported that an American male, who identified himself as Lee OSWALD contacted the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City inquiring whether the Embassy had received any news concerning a telegram which had been sent to Washington. The American was described as approximately 35 years old, with an athletic build, about six feet tall, with a receding hairline. (*italics added*)

Whatever else will be said about this mystery man allegedly calling himself "Oswald," the playing out of the old joke which ended in this version with, "Hello, this is Lee Oswald; any messages for me?" strains our credulity.

As Kempster noted in the *L.A. Times*, Lee Harvey Oswald at the time was "23 years old, 5 feet 10 inches, and slender." The "5 feet 10 inches" which Kempster gave was, I suppose, an average figure arrived at by adding up all the recorded heights of an alleged Lee Harvey Oswald and dividing by thirteen; the Marine, passport, New Orleans arrest record, F.B.I., and autopsy heights, for example, are 5'8", 5'11", 5'11", 5'9", 5'9", and 5'9".

### **The C.I.A. "Oswald"**

Whether or not the action was a legitimate attempt to get information, apparently the C.I.A. had asked the Navy Department for photographs of *their* Oswald so that Phillips' Station photographs could be compared to the Marine pictures of Lee Harvey Oswald. On November 22nd, 1963, the Agency shared its covertly-obtained photos with the F.B.I. before the assassination occurred in Dallas. Admitting that it had made a mistake, the C.I.A. gave the Warren Commission its promise it would clear up the Mexico City mystery. The Commission was somewhat dubious of the affair. Though the strong possibility that Oswald had been impersonated and hence framed existed from the moment the alleged mistake was revealed, and though the Agency grudgingly gave the Commission some information about its "surveillance and photographic" operations in Mexico City, it resisted revealing its "sensitive source" - if human - and ultimately gave no adequate explanation to the Warren Commission. The C.I.A. asked the Warren Commission to believe that Oswald had been in Mexico City; the Commission acted as if it believed the Agency; Sylvia Odio's story, corroborated, unrefuted, and irritating, remained unexplained. Lee Harvey Oswald, according to the Warren Commission, had visited Mexico City in late September and early October, possibly on some conspiratorial mission; Lee Harvey Oswald returned to Dallas, according to the Commission, a frustrated Marxist, rejected and alone, and killed the President of the United States with his old and rusty Mannlicher-Carcano.

Odum Exhibit 1, the celebrated view of the Mexico City "Oswald" in the Commission's public record, was joined by a whole album of photographs of the unidentified Soviet and Cuban embassy visitor. In 1975, responding to a Freedom of Information Act request, the C.I.A. released photographs which proved that the same man, "identified" as Oswald but obviously not Oswald, had been photographed at least two times. In 1976, more photographs were released,



including a number of new shots. A total of eleven photographs showed the Mexico City Station "Oswald" in three different outfits, indicating that he had been photographed by the Agency at least three separate times. Kempster placed an important "hook" at the end of his "Oswald"-in-Mexico-City story, though he did not give his source. Since the C.I.A. had released "Oswald"/Mexico City materials to the Senate Intelligence Committee earlier in 1976, and since David Atlee Phillips testified before that committee on the Mexico City Station's "Oswald," we can assume that the Agency, Phillips himself, or both supplied Kempster - directly or indirectly - with his material to amplify its responses to the *New York Times* and Church's probe of its Mexican "mistake." Now it was suggested that the Agency possibly bugged the Soviet Embassy, heard someone say he was Oswald, and assumed that "Oswald" must be the man the C.I.A. had photographed with its hidden cameras. Very sloppy work for the Station which could later boast it had an officer at the time who became a GS-18 just twelve years later.

From the doubts expressed at least privately by Warren Commission staffers through the unanswered questions taken up and then left unanswered by the Senate Select Intelligence Committee and the Schweiker subcommittee (on the Kennedy assassination), the central importance of the Mexico City C.I.A. station in discovering a possible conspiracy to frame Lee Harvey Oswald was obvious. Less obvious, until late September, 1975, was the equal or greater importance of that station's *chief of "covert action,"* as he called it: David Atlee Phillips. Phillips passed off the critical importance of his C.I.A. job during Oswald's alleged visits and at the moment of the assassination in Dallas by stating off-handedly his work involved "support" for certain undefined C.I.A. operations: he used the cooler word "projects." One can almost see the felt paper and the Charlie Brown cartoons illustrating Agency ethical concerns. Phillips added that these "projects" were in "third countries" - according to the clandestine operations chief of the Mexico City C.I.A. station, his work was "relatively routine." Phillips did reveal that most of his time was spent on "anti-Castro propaganda operations."

### **A Transparent Operation**

So, in the middle of David Atlee Phillips' routine and ordinary work, with occasional cooperative endeavors with the local F.B.I. representative, came someone who was "just another blip" on the station's screen: just one more American tourist. But like a few other American tourists, one who visited the Cuban and Soviet embassies - and so he was given somewhat more notice. According to Phillips, the station's case officer in charge of Russian operations (whom Phillips

called "Craig") took note of the fact that this particular tourist indicated his desire to return to the Soviet Union by way of Cuba. Craig was a busy man; he should have sent a cable to C.I.A. headquarters asking for an Oswald file check; he "procrastinated" (that man will never reach GS-18). "Prodded" by an assistant, Craig still delayed. If you remember the Joan Crawford movie, you will be aware of Phillips' criticism of the case officer's wife which he did not spell out: Craig's wife was also Craig's assistant. She had been a C.I.A. staff officer herself, her area of expertise, the Soviet Union. She composed the dispatch on her own, leaving it for her husband's and Station Chief Winfield Scott's review. "Who, the cable asked Washington, is Lee Henry Oswald?" Phillips summarized.

David Atlee Phillips' response to the Kennedy assassination, at least in his book, was muted: two pages, and "the tragedy" was over. Much more room was taken up listing non-existent "conspiracy theories" about Oswald the Cuban or Russian or C.I.A. agent - according to Phillips, tawdry wares peddled by a "swarm of sceptics" making a "lucrative profession" writing "ludicrous books" with "bizarre explanations." Phillips overstated his case. As far as I know, no one in the United States has made a significant amount of money from lecturing or writing books about Lee Harvey Oswald as an agent of the Cubans, the Russians, or the Agency. That kind of charge does not inspire one's confidence in more important matters taken up on the same page, and the next: the less-than-credible explanation for the Mexico City Station's "Oswald" error.

Craig's wife did it. She made the "Henry" mistake; she combined clandestine observation of the Soviet embassy (an "Oswald" wanted to know if there were any messages for him) with clandestine photographs taken of "an individual of interest" who "frequented" the Russian embassy. She added together the information and sent out the "incorrect" dispatch. Later, it should have been all straightened out, but "conspiracy buffs" kept confusing things. The only confusion that Phillips documented, however, was the familiar and spurious Oswald story supplied by "D" to the Mexico City station and extensively reviewed and rejected by the Warren Commission. "D" was Gilberto Alvarado, of Nicaraguan intelligence, whose ties were to a Nicaraguan-based anti-Castro invasion-and-assassination attempt, the Second Naval Guerrilla, which included such notables as Bernard Barker, James McCord, and E. Howard Hunt. The Second Naval Guerrilla was an anti-Castro operation with ties to the Laureano Batista/Somoza-family group which included Carlos Prio Socarras and Frank Sturgis, Sturgis' friend Victor Panque (associated with Trujillo) and Miguel de Leon and Fernando Penabaz, both responsible for false Oswald stories, and friends of Sixto Mesa and Manuel Artime. Even to begin to

unravel these relationships (and more) is to recite a litany of the anti-Castroites with mercenary, Syndicate, and false Oswald story credentials. Phillips, in one of his more revelatory moments, tells us it is his "theory, almost a conviction" that "D"/Alvarado was sent by the Somoza brothers "to influence the American government to move against Cuba." I wouldn't doubt it.

According to Phillips, the Cubans and the Russians rejected Oswald, a "kook," and he came home to Dallas. About the alleged Somoza try, Phillips was understanding and not too critical; he called it a "transparent operation." Phillips' explanation of his Mexico City Station "error" might charitably be called the same thing.

### **Target: Divert the Kennedy Assassination Inquiry**

We are in a better position now to understand the context of the massive C.I.A. response to the *New York Times* "inquiries" in September, 1975, and the crucial role which David Atlee Phillips probably played in supplying information to the media and to the Senate Intelligence Committee. The *New York Times* stories on "Oswald" in Mexico City, the Associated Press stories, the UPI wire stories - all were filled with unnamed but knowledgeable "sources" who supplied details about the Mexico City Station operations, the Mexico City "Oswald" story, and helpful analyses of Oswald's intentions and actions. All were clearly from one source: David Atlee Phillips. For example, in the *New York Times*, "sources" reported the Agency knew the Cubans were dubious of Oswald, regarding his behavior as "strange." The *Times*' C.I.A. "source" thought Oswald left Mexico City "frustrated." In every major news item on "Oswald" in Mexico City in late September, 1975, David Atlee Phillips seemed to be trying out material for Chapter 5 of *The Night Watch*. The material "sold" well: the nation was flooded with the name and picture of Oswald again, and the energies of the Kennedy inquiry were, if not dissipated, in part exhausted by the C.I.A. ploy.

The end-thrust of the *New York Times* article of September 21st, 1975, was clear; though the C.I.A. had made a regrettable error and had possibly withheld information from the Warren Commission, it was the *F.B.I.* which was in trouble: the Bureau had admitted to the Warren Commission it had received the C.I.A.'s information on Oswald's alleged Soviet embassy contact. But the Bureau did not follow up this obvious lead before the assassination, possibly because Oswald "was already under an *F.B.I.* security investigation in connection with pro-Castro activities." The shots directed against the *F.B.I.* in the C.I.A.-focused stories were

often keyed to the second "revelation in recent weeks," as the AP put it: the Hosty-Shanklin alleged destruction of Oswald's hand-delivered note to the Dallas F.B.I. office. Both the AP and UPI releases apparently relied on Central Intelligence Agency admissions, Phillips' supplementary material, and sources in the Senate Intelligence Committee (which was probably being fed C.I.A.-Phillips material). And at the end of the wire service stories, it was the F.B.I. which was in trouble. Both wire services reported that the C.I.A. admitted tape-recording two telephonic conversations involving "Lee Harvey Oswald" on September 27th and 28th, 1963, monitored in routine C.I.A. procedures. The tapes were "routinely processed and filed...until after...Nov. 22, 1963, when either the actual tape or transcripts were flown to Washington," a source reported. But a recently-declassified F.B.I. memorandum to the Warren Commission stated that "another U.S. government agency [was] in possession of the following information" - and the once-secret F.B.I. report then detailed the contents of the alleged Oswald C.I.A.-monitored conversations. In a UPI release, it was noted that the Agency had informed the Bureau on October 10th, 1963, of its monitoring of Oswald's alleged telephone communication with the Cubans and Soviets. But, the UPI concluded, the F.B.I. failed to follow-up this C.I.A. lead, even though Oswald was under investigation for his "pro-Castro" operations. The anniversary of Kennedy's death in 1975 came and went, and the apparent C.I.A. strategy had worked. Agency mistakes, of course; Agency lapses, of course; but information *had* been passed on to the F.B.I. in time, had the Bureau only acted.

One year later, the Kennedy case was heating up again; the House Select Committee was hearing witnesses; the physical evidence for a conspiracy, available to the Committee from a dozen assassination researchers, was waiting to be put into coherent form, so that the nation could finally hear the news: John F. Kennedy was struck by rifle rounds fired by at least two rifles; CE 399 was probably a plant; the alleged assassin's weapon was incapable of firing fast enough to be the murder weapon; the President's autopsy report and Naval death certificate indicated Kennedy had been struck from both behind and in front; evidence suggested strongly that Lee Harvey Oswald had been framed. The nation waited. Despite the more important Fensterwald and O'Toole investigation, on November 26th and 27th, 1976, the nation heard still another C.I.A. story: it was reported that "the CIA deleted that portion of the conversation in which Oswald offered unspecified information to the Soviets in return for a free trip to Russia. The CIA...declined to comment...." David Atlee Phillips was the media's announced source and Agency-expert on "Oswald" in Mexico City: he told the wire services and the national press about his knowledge and his "convictions"; and in response to a

congressional subpoena, David Atlee Phillips told the House Select Committee on Assassinations in closed session about "Oswald" in Mexico City. The Kennedy investigation had been co-opted by the Agency.

The familiar story of the photographs, the recordings, and Craig's wife was given to the House Committee. But Phillips now added another element: the C.I.A.'s monitoring camera just happened to break down on the very day that Lee Harvey Oswald allegedly visited the Russian embassy. And Craig's wife had not made the "Henry" error; the C.I.A. tap on the Soviet line picked up an alleged telephonic conversation in which someone *identified* himself as "Lee Henry Oswald." Phillips maintained before the Committee that the *actual* recordings were "routinely" destroyed about one week after they were made. But the F.B.I. claimed it had *heard* the telephone recording of the C.I.A. seven weeks later which the Agency - or at least David Atlee Phillips - maintained had been routinely destroyed. In a recently-declassified letter written to the Commission by Bureau Director J. Edgar Hoover and dated November 23rd, 1963, Hoover stated:

The Central Intelligence Agency advised that on Oct. 1, 1963, an extremely sensitive source had reported that an individual identified himself as Lee Oswald, who contacted the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City inquiring as to any messages.

Special agents of this Bureau, who have conversed with Oswald in Dallas, Tex., have observed photographs of the individual referred to above and have listened to a recording of his voice. These special agents are of the opinion that the above-referred-to individual was not Lee Harvey Oswald.

And so David Atlee Phillips' "transparent operation" was in shreds - or should have been. With the publication of his book in 1977, *The Night Watch*, the C.I.A.'s less-than-credible "Oswald" story still had a flutter of life; no reviewer, however, pointed out that (1) the story was, to say the least, a thin one, and (2) two years of Phillips-C.I.A. materials on "Oswald" in Mexico City had considerably modified the version told in the Phillips book.

### **Antonio Veciana Returns**

We know that the AMBLOOD/Alpha 66 story, including one of its characters, remained of some interest to both private and public investigators in Washington, if only because George O'Toole and Paul Hoch (a West Coast Kennedy researcher), told part of the Veciana story nationally in March, 1976. Having obtained CD 853, and with the leads provided by Hoch and O'Toole, recently-released Treasury and Secret Service documents, Phillip Agee's report on his Quito experiences, and finally House Assassination Committee leaks published in Jack Anderson's columns (where Veciana was called "Mr. X") I was able to put part of the AMBLOOD/Alpha 66 story together. David Atlee Phillips supplied still more leads. While the present book was in preparation, George O'Toole's *The Assassination Tapes*, with an appended postscript, was republished in paperback. In that postscript, O'Toole's version of the Veciana story is close to mine. Some details, however, which O'Toole supplied from his personal experience helped to bring the Veciana story up-to-date.

In 1976, Hoch and O'Toole furnished the Schweiker subcommittee of Frank Church's Senate Intelligence Committee their version of the Veciana-Odio links. The subcommittee was sufficiently interested so that efforts were made to locate Antonio Veciana in Florida. In March, 1976, Freddie Prinze, the now-deceased entertainer, a friend of O'Toole's and one of the many people in this country who have had a continuing concern about the Kennedy assassination case, spoke to O'Toole from the Fountainebleau Hotel in Miami Beach. Prinze, too, felt the Sylvia Odio story was crucial to the Dallas mystery, and when O'Toole reviewed the material that would shortly be published on Veciana, commenting that the Schweiker subcommittee was having difficulty finding Veciana, Prinze got to work - and found the sought-after Alpha 66 leader. Veciana subsequently testified before the Schweiker Committee and the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

Veciana's involvement in assassination plots did not end with the F.B.I.'s less-than-intense inquiry after the Kennedy murder. Veciana has been frequently implicated in terrorist conspiracies, including a planned attack on Cuban U.N. delegates which was reported to the Miami police by the F.B.I. in September, 1965. Veciana's links to violent anti-Castro Cuban groups extended to Chile, where Venezuelan agents, including Luis Posada Carriles, plotted with Veciana in 1971 to assassinate Fidel Castro when he visited Chile that year. Luis Posada Carriles, so-called Venezuelan security agent, was commissioned to supply fraudulent evidence implicating the Soviet Union in the planned Castro murder. That 1971 assassination attempt was organized, according to Veciana, by his C.I.A. case officer, Morris Bishop.

Through Luis Posada Carriles, Veciana has been linked to Orlando Bosch and his associates. On December 21st, 1976, *Earth News* reported that

Venezuelan authorities have agreed to allow U.S. investigators to question Cuban-exile terrorist Orlando Bosch about the bombing death of former Chilean cabinet member Orlando Letelier in Washington, D.C.

Justice Department investigators are now giving more credence to previously reported evidence that Cuban exile leaders were hired by the military junta in Chile to assassinate Letelier. The [Justice] Department now believes that Bosch can corroborate evidence pointing to an international murder-for-hire plot in which disgruntled Cuban exiles did the dirty work for the Chilean secret police.

The historical parallels are frightening; and the possibility that some of the same cast of characters might be involved, still more frightening. The *New York Times* reported that "Cuban sources here [in Miami] said Manuel Arttime...had been in touch with Dr. Bosch and other exiles in Nicaragua." On November 22, 1976, in an interview with convicted Watergate burglar Frank Sturgis at the University of Hartford, Sturgis admitted to us that he had trained Orlando Bosch for the Agency. Bosch was arrested in October, 1976, on murder charges in connection with the blowing up of a Cuban jetliner; arrested with Bosch was Luis Posada Carriles, Venezuelan secret policeman and assassination conspirator with Antonio Veciana in 1971.

Orlando Bosch's connections go back to New Orleans and to the sinister circle with which Lee Harvey Oswald was in touch, possibly as a low-level American intelligence employee. Bosch had close relations with Manuel Gil (of INCA) and others who worked with and knew Rolando Masferrer - the vicious "El Tigre" of the Batista government; Masferrer was a friend and associate of the mercenary and reputed Syndicate group clustered around Loran Eugene Hall, and it was Rolando Masferrer whom Jack Ruby boasted he knew when Ruby returned from a Cuban trip. In the 1960s, Orlando Bosch also consorted with Carlos Bringuier (in New Orleans), the right-wing anti-Castro Cuban and F.B.I. informant to whom Lee Harvey Oswald offered his ex-Marine services in what could have been an attempt on Oswald's part to penetrate an anti-Castro clandestine operation with suspicious connections to the Kennedy assassination. The world is, indeed, less random than we sometimes think.

The United States Drug Enforcement Administration arrested Antonio Veciana on charges of dealing drugs; Veciana claimed the narcotics bust was a "set-up" attributable to his past C.I.A. activities. Two days later, according to Veciana's statements to House Select Committee staff members (and possibly in secret testimony before the Committee itself), Veciana was paid an accumulated salary of over \$150,000 - one source reported the figure as \$253,000. The payment to Veciana for thirteen years of service to the Agency was delivered by his C.I.A. control, Morris Bishop. According to Veciana, after that pay-off he was never contacted by Bishop again. Veciana served seventeen months on his narcotics conviction in Atlanta Penitentiary. According to one source, the Senate Select Intelligence Committee made contact with him after his release from prison, and Veciana testified before Senator Church's group.

All things come together: the universe is, at least occasionally, randomless. Recently-released CD 853 supplied the connections between Rodriguez and John Thomas Masen; *if* Masen was, in fact, an Oswald look-alike, the second Oswald whom Treasury agent Frank Ellsworth had investigated and arrested in Dallas on or about November 18th, 1963, on arms violation charges, and *if* those charges were true - that Manuel Ocarberro Rodriguez and Alpha 66 purchased illegal guns from the Dallas gunsmith - then the possibility of Ellsworth's Other Oswald (an Alpha 66 associate) being the "Oswald" observed throughout the September- October-November, 1963, period unavoidably presented itself.

Was it possible that Treasury Agent Frank Ellsworth's "Oswald" was present with two Latin Americans at the residence of Sylvia Odio on September 26th or 27th, 1963, in an attempt to implicate Lee Harvey Oswald in a phony "left-wing" plot to kill John F. Kennedy? Was it possible (1) as an anti-Castroite, (2) as a fund-raiser for his Cuban exile commandos, and (3) with ties to the AMBLOOD-Alpha 66 bazooka attempt on Castro (and therefore capable of discovering underground war names and cryptonyms), that Antonio Veciana was one of the two Latin Americans who visited Sylvia Odio in late September, 1963?

According to reporter Dick Russell (who called Antonio Veciana "Carlos"), Veciana was, in the autumn of 1976, flown to Washington by Congressional investigators and brought secretly to a meeting of retired American intelligence officers. The investigators felt they had a close match for Veciana's description of his case officer, Morris Bishop. So Antonio Veciana was asked to view former C.I.A. officer, GS-18 retired, David Atlee Phillips.



The universe may, for microseconds, be determined. Dick Russell has reported that Veciana would not admit to recognizing his old friend from the AMBLOOD-Alpha 66 days, and unless Veciana changes his mind and affirms or denies the match, the Congressional probers, according to Russell, will continue to look for Veciana's Morris Bishop.



## **CHAPTER 13**

### **"A GOOD REPUTATION": JACK LEON RUBY**

Who was Jack Ruby? And what was the significance of the Warren Commission's inquiry into his life, his behavior, his admitted murder of the alleged assassin of the president? What kind of leverage (sometimes amounting to political blackmail) was exerted, and by whom, when various aspects of the Ruby story and the Ruby investigation surfaced between 1964 and 1977? Peter Dale Scott has done the best work (and, in a sense, the only work) in answer to the last question, indicating a thick interfacing of potentially-explosive relationships on the local, state, and Federal "levels": quite correctly, Scott juxtaposed the lower octave of the Ruby story to the higher octave of what he called the "the CIA, the Mafia, and the Dallas-Watergate Connection." I commend Scott to the reader who wishes to find an answer to my third question. Here, I will concentrate on the first two.

#### **Jack Ruby and Crime: the Lansky-Hoffa Connections**

The most impressive generalization which Kennedy researchers Canfield and Weberman made in their discussion of "Ruby, Lansky, and the Death of Oswald" occurred early in their chapter on Jack Ruby. Ruby, they summarized, was a "Hoffa-oriented" labor hood who graduated to the rank of "full-fledged gangster" working under alleged Syndicate leader Meyer Lansky with a "special interest" in Cuba. It was a disturbing and simple generalization which at first struck me as a gross overstatement. But its simplicity is its truth: and Canfield and Weberman's most unsettling phrase, "who worked under Meyer Lansky," is the key. Lansky's name does not appear anywhere in the Warren Report or in the twenty-six Hearings volumes - an incredible exclusion, if only because scores of persons deposed, investigated, testified about, or mentioned in the Commission's public record allegedly worked at one time with Meyer Lansky or for one of his "proprietaries."

Ruby can be linked significantly to Meyer Lansky through (1) a number of early and continuing relations to reputed Syndicate figures, especially Dave Yaras and Lenny Patrick; (2) Carlos Prio Socarras (discussed in Chapter 21); (3) a known connection with reputed Syndicate figure Larry Meyers; (4) Ruby's career-long association with the Teamsters and Jimmy Hoffa's friends, enforcers, and allies; (5) his contacts with reputed Syndicate figures working with Murray Humphreys, Tony Accardo, Jake Guzik, Hymie Levin (or Levine), and later with Sam Giancana; (6) his close friendship with Lansky-employee Louis McWillie; and (7) Ruby's alleged meetings with Santo Trafficante, an ally of Meyer Lansky. If Ruby's "Fox brothers" were, in fact, the Lansky brothers, as Ruby's own description of the "Foxes" indeed strongly suggested, then we have an *admitted* direct connection between Meyer Lansky and Jack Ruby; but even without that evidence, the density of Ruby's relations with Lansky-associated persons is persuasive. Further, Ruby's life is a micro-narrative of the penetration of Teamsters and Teamsters-allied labor organizations into American life. With the well-documented argument for the near-identity of organized crime and corrupt labor, Ruby's Lansky-Hoffa orientation is a way to organize the Ruby fragments and pieces the Warren Commission either buried in the Hearings volumes or initially suppressed from its public record. Both Mark Lane and Peter Dale Scott have established Ruby's Syndicate-Teamsters ties to show that Oswald's murderer had access to the Organized-Crime half of the Syndicate-C.I.A. assassination attempts against Fidel Castro. The evidence they (and others) assembled for Ruby's Lansky-Hoffa identity (though that identity was not the focus of their analysis) is overwhelming. And that identity was already realized when Jack Rubenstein (as Ruby was known then) first made news in Chicago as a principal in the Leon Cooke murder case.

### Seized for Questioning

Leon Cooke's father had made money in trash-handling and waste-removal; his son, together with a friend, Jack Rubenstein, organized local #20467 of the Scrap Iron and Junk (Waste) Handlers Union in 1937. Rubenstein acted as the union's "organizer." In the nearby state of Michigan, a rising Teamsters official, Jimmy Hoffa, had bigger plans than running the union locals in his territory - even bigger plans than controlling the enormously-rich Central Conference of Teamsters Fund. According to the McClellan Committee, Hoffa allied himself with Paul Dorfman of Chicago, Jack Ruby's old friend and fighting associate. The Ruby-Dorfman relationship went back at least to 1929, but the Warren Commission left that important lead to the origins of Ruby's Syndicate-Teamsters connections undeveloped. On December 8th, 1939, Jack Ruby's friend Leon Cooke, the

co-founder of the Waste Handlers Union, was shot at the offices of the local. Leon Cooke had been the union's secretary and treasurer through 1938, but officially held no union office when he was shot. According to police reports published in the *Chicago Daily Tribune* on December 9th, 1939, John Martin, the union's president, was wanted as Cooke's attacker. According to those same reports, Jack Rubenstein, the secretary of the union, "was absent at the time of the shooting." In January, Cooke died and Martin was indicted for the murder but later acquitted on a plea of self-defense. What followed was Dorfman's takeover for Hoffa.

This much of the Cooke-Ruby union "murder" case has been retold in print a dozen times - a set piece in Kennedy researchers' recital of Ruby's organized-crime/Teamsters connections. *What has not been told is just as important.* Leon Cooke, as secretary and treasurer of the Waste Handlers Union, had been responsible for the collection of the dues of the union's 900-members. With the dues between \$1.50 and \$2.00 a month per member for just a one-year period, the union's gross revenues (from dues alone) came to \$16,000 and \$22,000. According to investigators, only \$700 was accounted for in "legitimate uses," and Martin's salary for one year was only \$1,440. Unaccounted for was a sum between \$15,000 and \$20,000: compared to inflated 1977 dollars, an amount with the buying power of at least \$100,000. It seems that within twenty-four hours after the shooting, the Illinois State's Attorney's staff was involved in the investigation; Lieutenant Thomas Kelly of that office clearly indicated a possible investigation of the union's finances had already been underway: "We are looking into the union's finances," said Kelly on December 9th. He also gave details to the *Chicago Daily Tribune* on the union's membership dues and on Martin's monthly salary. No later than the evening of December 8th, 1939, the business "affairs of the Scrap and Junk Handlers' union were under official scrutiny...after Attorney Leon R. Cooke, 27 years old, was shot and seriously wounded in the union headquarters...."

Though Leon Cooke had been a co-founder of the union and the union's past secretary and treasurer, he was now identified by authorities as an "occasional attorney" for the Waste Handlers. Rubenstein, "who was seized for questioning," maintained he was "only" a union-dues collector. Ruby's admission meant at least part of the missing (or presumably missing) \$15,000-20,000 had passed through his hands. Whatever complicity on Rubenstein's part this transaction suggested, it was ignored, at least in the *Daily Tribune's* account. Martin, according to Rubenstein, was "in charge of financial matters." And Martin was in flight, said Supervising Captain John Stige; Martin had been accompanied by his stenographer Mrs. Gladys Walsh, "who was said to have witnessed the shooting." Kelly and Stige reported

"they were informed that Martin and Mrs. Walsh had descended a rear fire escape to get away. No trace was found of Martin...." The investigators were also told that Carlos Fontana, with a previous record as "a west side hoodlum in prohibition days," had recently been hired "by the union as a business agent" (logically by Jack Rubenstein?), but Rubenstein asserted that "he knew nothing of the new employee's past." (spelling in the original) Clearly, the "official" version of the shooting was already taking shape: Martin, a union funds' embezzler, had been confronted by the union's lawyer, former founder and past officer; Cooke, still alive at the hospital, was quoted as saying that "I went to see Martin to protest his conduct of the union. ...in a little while we were scuffling. When he grabbed a gun I told him he was crazy and started to leave." Two bullets went through Cooke's overcoat, draped over his arm; the third hit him in the back (or side, according to the attending doctors). "I staggered into the hall, got down the stair, and took a cab to the hospital." According to the *Daily Tribune*, the police had been informed the quarrel might have occurred "over the union's practice of demanding a checkoff," that is, an employer's deduction taken directly from the union-member's pay which would then be paid to the union. Cooke would therefore have been the opponent of the "checkoff" procedure, since he was the current president of the Midwest Waste Dealers' association "composed of junk yard owners." Hence the story is both more significant and more complex than some Kennedy researchers have reported. In a final police statement to the *Daily Tribune* that looks uncomfortably familiar, Captain Stige said: "This is one...shooting in which the facts seem to be rather plain. We may solve it."

The involvement of the Illinois state's attorney's office in the Cooke-Martin shooting incident should have been the clue which sent Kennedy investigators digging more deeply into Jack Ruby's role in the 1939 incident. Paul Dorfman, according to McClellan Committee counsel Robert Kennedy, was able to take over the union in 1939 after making a deal with Jimmy Hoffa. Dorfman, reported Kennedy, introduced Hoffa to the Chicago Syndicate; in turn, Dorfman received control of the massive Central Conference of Teamsters Welfare fund insurance.

### **The State's Attorney's Office**

The Syndicate in Chicago and Cook County had moved into bookmaking and other types of gambling: by 1938, at least 15,000 persons were working in Chicago's bookmaking business alone; that same year, an estimated 500 "handbooks" were in operation in Cook County, Illinois. A Cook County grand jury investigation in 1941 concluded that both the city of Chicago and Cook County were protecting

Syndicate-run gambling. Specifically, the "morals division" of the Chicago Police Department, headed by Captain Martin McCormick, was charged with deliberate dereliction, and the grand jury handed down its recommendations to abolish the morals division and investigate McCormick together with three of his morals division officers for "neglect of duty" and "filing false reports." The Chicago Civil Service Commission held hearings on the charges against McCormick and his men, and dismissed the grand jury allegations: the morals division, the Commission maintained, *had* reported the locations of suspected bookmaking establishments, although nothing was found when its officers visited the addresses. The Civil Service Commission had evidence in its possession that Captain McCormick and his division had submitted fraudulent reports; that evidence suggested strongly that McCormick's vice squad had acted as a "surveillance team" so that McCormick's bagman could collect the Captain's illegal licensing fees.

Robert H. Williams (on whose account of the McCormick case I have drawn heavily) asked the pertinent question: why did the Illinois State's Attorney's office play a role in the McCormick vice hearings? Cook County State's Attorney, the effective "district attorney" for both the county and the city of Chicago, had a "judicial mandate" to eliminate criminal conduct as well as exercise "enforcement power" to realize that mandate. Usually, in the larger urban centers of America, city police are assigned special duty with the district attorney's squad; in those same urban centers, the district attorney or his squad (or both) have been found to have been paid off by the same organized crime sources which bought the city's police. For extra insurance, as Williams pointed out, vice bosses bribe *both* the vice squad *and* the district attorney's squad. Was there more to the McCormick story, Williams wondered?

The State's Attorney for Cook County was Thomas J. Courtney, whose chief prober was Daniel A. Gilbert, closely associated with Courtney from 1932 on. But for three months in 1935, with the Syndicate gambling operations buzzing in Chicago and Cook County, Gilbert left the State's Attorney's office, and took a new job: head of all uniformed policemen in the city of Chicago, and therefore second in command, under Commissioner James P. Allman, of 6,000 Chicago police officers.

In April, 1935, Captain Daniel A. Gilbert conferred with the head of the Chicago "morals and gambling squad" Captain Martin Mullen, and it was reported in the *Chicago Sun-Times* that John L. Sullivan, Chief of Detectives, and Captain Mullen, both of whom formerly reported only to Police Commissioner James P. Allman, would now report to both Allman and Captain Daniel A. Gilbert. In July,

1935, Gilbert returned to his job with State's Attorney Thomas J. Courtney. Robert H. Williams' conclusion: "in retrospect,...the [payoff] bag had simply been rerouted." That same year, the Illinois state legislature had passed a handbook licensing law which was vetoed by the governor; unofficial street "taxation" by the vice squad continued.

From a number of sources, including Police Captain Daniel A. Gilbert's testimony before the Kefauver Committee, the Gilbert story, or at least part of it, can be pieced together. In 1940, it was charged that Gilbert had been at a Hot Springs hotel the same time the establishment was hosting Frank Nitti, the heir to Al Capone's Syndicate organization in Chicago - and Nitti was wanted by law authorities at the time. Earlier, Gilbert had been connected to Albert Lingle, a *Chicago Tribune* reporter who had a financial interest in a racing information publication; Lingle was murdered in 1930. Though Gilbert was supposed to have solved the kidnapping of "Jake the Barber" Factor in 1933, Roger Tuohy had been convicted of the kidnapping but claimed that the alleged snatch was a fraud (Factor was being threatened with deportation) engineered by several people, including Police Captain Gilbert. Tuohy convinced law authorities of his truthfulness, and a judge set him free on the basis of "perjured testimony." One month later, in November, 1939, Roger Tuohy was murdered. In Captain Gilbert's Chicago, the action had been rich: the national race wire was operating, and bookmaking was a thriving enterprise; slot machines were manufactured in, and shipped out of, Chicago to gambling centers all over America; and the Kefauver Committee found that Daniel Gilbert could be linked to a number of the old Capone mob which had chunks of that rich action, now dominated by Tony Accardo, Jake Guzik, Paul Ricca, Murray Humphreys, the Fischetti brothers, and a strong newcomer named "Sam" Giancana. Before the Committee, Daniel Gilbert admitted, "I have been a gambler at heart," saying that it wasn't so bad for cops to gamble: he had placed illegal bets himself. Asked if as chief investigator for the State's Attorney's office he was authorized to conduct gambling raids, he said yes - but that he had not done so since 1939: it was 1950. The Kefauver report, released in March, 1951, identified the two major national centers of Syndicate activity as Chicago and New York, and pointed to Lucky Luciano as the boss to whom both areas answered. It also characterized State's Attorney's investigator Daniel A. Gilbert as "the richest police officer in the world." His worth at his death in August, 1970 was in excess of \$1 million.



Back in 1938 and 1939, while the gamblers and vice purveyors ran freely in Chicago and Cook County, Gilbert was reportedly involved in putting pressure on "labor organizers" and illegal "loan sharks," according to Robert H. Williams, and had become involved "with the Teamsters Union, in an attempt to take over the scavenger waste pickup business in the city." Captain Daniel A. Gilbert, chief investigator for the Cook County State's Attorney's office, (1) linked to the Capone-Nitti Syndicate organization (then) run by Tony Accardo and company, (2) suspected of re-routing Chicago-area pay-off money in 1935 from organized crime into the State's Attorney's office or at least into his own hands, (3) associated with the faked kidnapping of a known Syndicate figure, (4) with a total net worth at the time of his death of over \$1 million had been involved in the Teamsters attempt to take over the Waste Handlers Union in Chicago.

More of the Cooke-Martin-Rubenstein story is relevant here. John Martin, the accused assailant of Leon Cooke, had been a "clerk of the sanitary district for 23 years"; that is, he had been a local government employee associated with *regulating* the removal of waste in Chicago. In August, 1939, Martin had been indicted with two others and Terry Druggan on conspiracy charges brought by revenue officers. Martin, Terry Druggan, and two other associates were charged with allegedly concealing the fact that Druggan, a known prohibition bootlegger, was "part owner of the Gambrinus brewery." Their conspiracy trial was to be held in February, 1940. By that date, co-defendant John Martin had been cleared of a charge of murder. Lieutenant Thomas Kelly, investigating the alleged shooting of Leon Cooke by John Martin for the State's Attorney's office, worked for *Captain Daniel Gilbert*. Kelly's information about the finances of the Waste Handler's Union was supplied to the State's Attorney's office by *Jack Rubenstein*. As the shooting was reported in the *Chicago Daily Tribune*, all of the information which Kelly and Stige gave to the newspapers could have been supplied by Jack Rubenstein, including the identification of John Martin as the alleged shooter. Did the curious newspaper phrase "absent at the time of the shooting" actually read "present" at the time of the Leon Cooke shooting in an earlier police version?

Peter Dale Scott has made a persuasive case for Jack Ruby's enjoying the protection of the government from prosecution on drug smuggling charges in 1947. Scott's evidence points to the strong possibility Ruby was immune from arrest and indictment because he was a *government informer as early as 1946*. I think sufficient circumstantial evidence now exists to suggest that Jack Ruby, then known as Jack Rubenstein, was a *police informer working with the Illinois State's Attorney's office - and possibly the morals and gambling squad of the Chicago*

police - as early as 1938 or 1939. The take-over of the Waste Handlers Union by Paul Dorfman after Jack Ruby "retired" from the secretary's position of the union, giving Jimmy Hoffa access to Chicago in his drive for Teamster power, involved both Jack Ruby and State's Attorney's investigators whose chief was Police Captain Daniel A. Gilbert, to whom the 6,000 uniformed Chicago police reported as of 1935 in what has been judged to be the re-routing of Syndicate pay-off money.

Did Leon Cooke die as a result of his alleged shooting by John Martin? According to the *Chicago Daily Tribune* of December 9th, 1939, Leon Cooke "took a cab to the hospital." According to a hospital spokesman, the single bullet "was embedded in the attorney's side. Physicians who extracted it said he probably would recover." Yet later reports indicated, and as Mark Lane has summarized, Cooke "lingered" near death for several days - until he died. But Cooke spoke coherently to the police officers at the hospital just after the shooting. Is it possible that Leon Cooke was murdered, not at the Waste Handlers' office, but while in the hospital? A parallel case involving associates of Jack Ruby could be instructive. James M. Ragen owned the Continental Press Service in Chicago, the Syndicate's national racing wire established and run by Moe Annenberg until he was convicted and sentenced to prison. Ragen had differences, it was reported, with the leaders of the Chicago mob. Dave Yaras and Lenny Patrick, Jack Ruby's old friends from the Dave Miller gang, were accused of attempting the killing of Ragen. With his body heavy with bullets, Ragen still lived, and under close police guard, kept a tenuous hold on life for three months, then died.

But not from gunshot wounds: he had been poisoned with a massive dose of mercury. Yaras and Patrick were never convicted. If what was left of Leon Cooke's body were to be exhumed, would evidence be found of probable death by mercury toxin?

In the summer of 1950, Captain Gilbert had appeared before the Kefauver Committee. Though, according to Robert H. Williams, the Committee suppressed Captain Gilbert's testimony, the *Chicago Sun-Times* was able to gain a copy of it. *Sun-Times* readers learned that Gilbert admitted to an income (in 1949) of \$30,000 beyond his State's Attorney's salary - from the gambling action it was his job to eliminate. They further learned that the Cook County equivalent of the vice squad had not busted a handbook for at least eleven years. It may be too suspicious to point out that though Estes Kefauver was an honorable man, the same could not be said of those who suppressed the Gilbert testimony and those who leaked it to the *Sun-Times*. Those who withheld it were probably Democrats; those who sent it to

the Sun-Times, probably Republicans - unless withholding and leaking were battles in an intra-party war. The consequence of the leak, however, was apparent. Gilbert was on leave from the State's Attorney's office when he entered the Democratic primary to run for Sheriff. He defeated the opposing Democratic candidate, who immediately closed ranks and announced his support for the Police Captain and State's Attorney's investigator. But the Sun-Times reports were against him: Gilbert was clobbered. Gilbert made his leave of absence permanent early in 1951. In March, 1951, the Kefauver report was published.

### **The Cooke County Connection**

Senator John F. Kennedy ran neck-and-neck with Senator Johnson in the early part of the alphabetical roll-call at the Democratic Convention in 1960; when the twelfth state was heard from, Illinois, 61 1/2 votes were announced for Kennedy. As Ted Sorensen commented, the massive Illinois support was due entirely to Chicago's "resolute Mayor...Dick Daley. From this point on Kennedy was never behind." Without exaggeration, John F. Kennedy's presidency was a reachable reality sometime around midnight when the rollcall of the states reached "Illinois," and Richard Daley delivered all but 7 1/2 of Illinois' 69 votes to the next president of the United States. And when the election came, Richard Daley got out the votes (according to his enemies and some of his friends), both the living and the dead. Cook County carried Illinois, and Illinois helped carry the nation for Kennedy. Disgruntled Republican candidate Richard Nixon smelled vote fraud, but the election results were not challenged.

Three years later, riding in the same motorcade with the other leading contender, Vice President Lyndon Baines Johnson, for that earlier Democratic presidential nomination, John F. Kennedy was cut down by a crossfire of weapons in Dealey Plaza. Two days later, his accused assassin was murdered by Jack Ruby - who had been known as Jack Rubenstein when he lived and worked in Chicago. The Warren Commission could have found the links: from Jack Ruby to Syndicate figures like Dave Yaras and Lennie Patrick and the old Dave Miller gang. And the links to Jake Arvey's political machine in Chicago's important 24th Ward would not have been difficult to uncover. A touchy situation: the murderer of the alleged assassin of the Democratic president of the United States found to be linked to Democratic Committeeman Jake Arvey in his own 24th Ward. And whoever did the tracing would surely have found another series of links: the shooting of Leon Cooke by John Martin, who had worked as a salaried employee for what was, in effect, the Chicago Democratic machine; that shooting investigated by the Democratic State's

Attorney's office headed by Democratic Police Captain Daniel Gilbert, exposed by the Kefauver Committee as an intimate of the Chicago mob, including people like Tony Accardo and Sam Giancana - who had supported Kennedy in Chicago. They would have found further that the State's Attorney's chief detective had defeated the Cook County Clerk for the Democratic nomination for Sheriff - a Syndicate-linked Cook County law officer had defeated Cook County Clerk *Richard J. Daley* - who, in turn, backed the primary victor: "We have never been lacking the courage to stand behind any candidate in an emergency." The consequences of uncovering that series of links could have been politically disastrous, especially if the evidence tended to show that Jack Ruby had been a *Cook County law officer's informant* as well as the *front man* for a Syndicate-Teamsters take-over of a Chicago union.

The alleged ineptness of the F.B.I. in examining the records of the Cooke-Martin-Rubenstein case, recounted a dozen times as the second-half of that Kennedy-researcher set-piece proving Ruby's Syndicate-Teamsters background, might now be accounted for. Was the Bureau tugging at a loose string which would have unraveled a tangled knot of Chicago and Cook County politics, vice squad and state's attorney's squad organized crime pay-offs, a former Democratic office-seeker with ties to the Syndicate, a police and state's attorney's informer with ties to the Syndicate and the Teamsters, at least two murder cases, and the early involvement in the whole mess of the second-most powerful politician in the Democratic Party? I would recommend to the House Select Committee on Assassinations that the unexplored ramifications of the shooting of Leon Cooke could give the Committee at least part of the reason for the massive cover-up involving Jack Leon Ruby.

### **Jack Ruby and Information**

Organized crime in our urban centers offered proscribed vice to its paying customers and corrupted the very guardians of the law set against the criminals who profited from the illegal but desirable vices. Gambling, smuggling, prostitution, narcotics, gun traffic, pornography (the more proscribed, the more vicious it became) bred the police informant, the need for more and more police intelligence, and the use of that intelligence to accomplish multiple ends. Jack Ruby played a part in that development of organized crime; he helped satisfy the vice squad in its insatiable drive for information - and hence more pay-offs and control; he helped eliminate the unorganized or competitive opposition, the non-Syndicate threats; he helped get rid of the now-undesirable associate: turning him in and splitting up his territory.

Jack Ruby's life (I suspect) from 1938/1939, or at least from 1946/47, as Peter Dale Scott argued, and as the evidence has established for Dallas in the 1950s and 1960s, was one of informing: of police- and intelligence-oriented information-gathering. If Jack Ruby had already begun to work for an Illinois county intelligence organization in 1938 or 1939, he would have been ready to start up again (after the war) when he arrived in Dallas, Texas, with his beloved police and their dark apparatus of vice and corruption.

### **Any Honest Government**

The parade of names and organizations through the Ruby records which the Warren Commission was willing to share with us is staggering. When Peter Dale Scott suggested that Jack Ruby's importance to an understanding of the Dallas conspiracy and cover-up was to be gained through an examination of (1) his associations with the Dallas police, specifically its vice squad, the Special Services Bureau; (2) his associations with Dallas power and politics, primarily *Democratic* power and *Democratic* politics, Scott was supplying us the other half of the Chicago-Dallas axis around which the double-agentry of Jack Ruby revolved. When Lansky and Luciano re-organized national crime, some areas were open, some closed, some shared: Dallas, it seems, was to be penetrated by a Chicago Syndicate-Mafia alliance represented by people like Jack Ruby's associate, Paul Roland Jones, and...Jack Ruby. The Warren Commission either *could not*, or *would not*, accept the redundant proof it possessed that Jack Ruby was a *Chicago delegate of the National Crime Syndicate*. And its counsel and staff buried or withheld the evidence that he was both a police informer and an F.B.I. informer: those facts, it seems, would have led us back to Cook County - and political disaster. Ruby's immediate Dallas connections in themselves were political dynamite if explored too deeply. Let the whole business of "informing" be discreetly buried, at least for a decent while, the Commission seems to have said. But the Ruby stories continued to be told, and the Kennedy researchers continued to probe, and in 1975, they found the evidence for which they had long searched. CD 1052 was obtained from the National Archives, proving that (1) Jack Ruby was considered by the F.B.I. to be at least a "Potential Criminal Informant" (PCI) no later than 1959, and that (2) he had met with an F.B.I. agent in Dallas no fewer than eight times in an eight-month period. Predictably, the national news media either ignored the story or denigrated it. But other documents obtained from the National Archives in the 1970s could now be put in some perspective, and the story of Jack Ruby, as well as the story of the Warren Commission's Ruby investigation, could begin to make more sense. The agencies which supplied - or did not supply - the Warren Commission with Jack Ruby information apparently followed a few, quite simple, rules: (1) do not

volunteer information; (2) do not follow up secondary leads; (3) depose the fewest important witnesses as possible; (4) delay answering Commission and Commission counsel inquiries as long as possible; (5) do not answer the questions asked by the Commission or its counsel: if some "answer" is finally demanded, then answer a question not asked. The Hubert and Griffin exchange with C.I.A. Director Helms is a classic example of following these rules. On February 24th, 1964, Hubert and Griffin wrote a long memorandum to Helms, detailing the areas of information they wished to have probed about Jack Ruby. Hubert and Griffin, the two Commission counsel delegated the task of investigating Jack Ruby, clearly communicated to Helms (and everyone else) that they *already* knew more about Ruby than the agencies seemed to want to tell them. No response from Helms. A month went by; on March 12th, Hubert and Griffin met with Helms: they handed him, it seems, a copy of their previous memorandum. Two months went by; no response from Helms. On May 19th, Rankin sent the memorandum to Helms, asking again for the information requested by Hubert and Griffin. Four months passed; no response from Helms. Finally, on September 15th, 1964, with the Warren Commission closing up shop and the *Warren Report* about to be handed to the president, an assistant to C.I.A. Director Helms wrote Hubert and Griffin, answering none of their questions, and giving them the answer to a question they had not asked. For their information, the greatest organization of intelligence-gathering in the world had been unable to establish if Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack Ruby had known each other. And that was all that Hubert and Griffin were going to get.

Well, though Oswald and Ruby were not introduced, they *did* meet on the 24th of November, 1963, albeit explosively. But the C.I.A. chose to ignore that documented relation between Oswald and Ruby.

Irony aside, the agencies chose to pursue their investigations into both Oswald and Ruby cross-eyed and left-handed. The perfect cover-up could be effected, deliberate or not, if all the agencies' investigators were either told, or found it necessary, to stare at the ugly blemish on their noses: the Oswald-Ruby "connection." Whenever someone demanded they uncross their eyes, the Warren Commission probers then had great difficulty focusing on anything in the middle distance. So great mountains of material would be heaved here and heaved there, and an investigative report would be typed out, often concluding, "No evidence that Lee Harvey Oswald knew Jack Ruby has been found."

The other ploy of the agencies (primarily, though not exclusively, the F.B.I.'s), was the Red Scare. The assassination of John F. Kennedy, the ensuing botched investigation, and the multiple cover-ups following the assassination were imbedded

in the local and national anti-Red movements in America. Just as one part of the F.B.I.'s concentration was on the rural-originated bandits the Bureau designated as "public enemies" (ignoring the obvious presence of the national crime organization), so also the abuse of civil liberties and civil rights was too often invisible writing on the pages of the Bureau's record; what counted were the Reds. The Reds were everywhere, and they had been with us ever since those immigrants came pouring in with their syndicalist, anarchist, social democratic, socialist, Bolshevik, unionist, Communist, Red minds and hearts. It was J. Edgar Hoover's paranoic obsession. Outlaws and Reds threatened to overrun the country.

The country *had* become visibly unstable in the wash of immigrant tides across its cities and towns; and an alliance of business, government, and crime demanded stability in the perceived disorder of America's big cities. Europe was bubbling with revolution and the fall of princes since the turn of the 19th century; now the United States was becoming a haven for the parents and the children of those parents who had committed regicide or declared themselves free citizens. A right-wing reaction occurred, and, both at home and abroad, one could gain support if one's credentials were anti-Communist, no matter how reactionary one's actions. The swing to the right was supported by local Red squads and Federal indictments; the F.B.I. helped; even elements of the C.I.A., particularly its F.B.I.-oriented divisions and departments ("Plans," Covert Operations, Office of Security, Counter Intelligence Division, Domestic Intelligence, etc.), either supported the anti-Communist drive or did nothing to counteract its hysteria. Congressional allies and their committees (Dies, McCarren, Eastland, Knowland, McCarthy, Dodd, Nixon, and others) held hearings, pursued investigations, issued reports and public statements. An *ad hoc* "China Lobby" was formed: the anti-Red movement discovered that America had lost China and proceeded to ferret out the government traitors responsible; later, the China Lobby's anti-Castro offspring (which Peter Dale Scott has called the "Cuba Lobby") enlisted the same "security"-minded forces to identify the culprits who had aided Fidel Castro, helping him to transform into what the Lobby thought he always was: a Communist. It may have been only an accident of history, but Joseph McCarthy's crusade against Communism helped counteract the concern in Congress over the terrifying threat of organized crime.

In that context of the Red Menace, the investigation of Jack Leon Ruby luxuriated. Scores of times, the irrelevant question was asked: "Do you have any knowledge of Jack Ruby's possible subversive or Communist background?" What on earth was someone trying to establish? That one lone nut Communist had killed the president, and that another lone nut (Jewish) Communist had killed the assassin?

The nation has had available a score of sophisticated researchers on organized crime - and yet few have pursued (beyond two or three pages) the possibilities of *criminal* involvement in the deaths of John F. Kennedy or Lee Harvey Oswald; most of them have remained silent. Before the Warren Commission, only attorney Mark Lane brought a coherent case for conspiracy: his presentation was so clear, the Commissioners either would not understand it or deliberately chose to ignore it. Instead of an aroused Commission responding to Lane's presentation, we had its passive acceptance of the F.B.I.'s inquiry into Jack Ruby's "possible" left-wing activities. Why? With the publication of Harold Weisberg's *Whitewash*, any honest government would have ordered a new investigation into *both* the assassination *and* the Warren Commission investigation.

Given the apparent agency rules for the Kennedy assassination investigation, especially (1) the non-responses of the C.I.A. and (2) the Red orientation of the F.B.I., the failure of Commission counsel Hubert and Griffin inevitably followed.

#### **The Hubert-Griffin Memoranda**

Hubert and Griffin's staff memoranda contain material neither published in the *Warren Report* nor presented in the twenty-six volumes of Hearings evidence. These internal memoranda are available in the National Archives, though both their existence and their revelations are largely unknown to either the American public or the press.

These documents are (1) a memorandum dated February 19, 1964; (2) a memorandum dated March 20, 1964; (3) a memorandum dated April 1, 1964; and (4) two versions of a May 14, 1964, memorandum. The memoranda are to Howard Willens, Commission counsel, to J. Lee Rankin, Chief Counsel of the Warren Commission, and to the seven Warren Commissioners themselves, from Leon D. Hubert, Jr., and Burt W. Griffin, the Commission lawyers charged with researching Jack Ruby's background and associates. One other memorandum in the series dated February 24th, 1964, is also important; it is available in 26 H of the Hearings materials. These five documents establish that the Warren Commission's staff was both extremely worried about Jack Ruby's suspicious connections and doubtful that an adequate investigation had been held into a possible conspiracy involving Ruby.

As early as February 19th, 1964, Hubert and Griffin wrote a memorandum expressing concern with a possible relation between Ruby and Oswald which had not been convincingly investigated, listing twenty-one individuals they asked to have researched. Hubert and Griffin urged that all Federal records, court and arrest records, photographs and fingerprints of those individuals be obtained "to...investigate any possible associations between Jack Ruby and Lee Harvey Oswald...." This investigation was never concluded.



In that same February 19th memorandum, Hubert and Griffin charged that "...the FBI reports which we have already received concerning Jack Ruby's telephone [are] *inaccurate or incomplete...*" (italics added) The Ruby researchers wanted to pursue Ruby's connection with the Chicago "Waste and Material Handlers Federal Union...." Had their recommendations been followed, at least Ruby's links to Teamsters' official Paul Dorfman and, through Dorfman, to Teamsters' boss Jimmy Hoffa would have been discovered; Ruby's role as a mediator between corrupt labor and organized crime would have been exposed. The F.B.I. failed to follow this marked trail.

The March 20th memorandum from lawyers Hubert and Griffin to the seven Warren Commissioners should have alerted the Commission to the uninvestigated areas which had to be checked before the Warren Report could be characterized as "adequate." The 7th, 8th, and 9th pages of the March 20th memorandum are saddening; they begin:

...the most promising links between Jack Ruby and the assassination of President Kennedy are established through underworld figures, anti-Castro Cubans, and extreme right-wing Americans.

Again, not one of these "promising links" was adequately investigated. In 1976, House Select Committee on Assassinations Counsel Richard Sprague quizzed reputed Syndicate figure Santo Trafficante about this identical mercenary/Syndicate/exiled-Cuban/conservative complex, with Trafficante remaining mute, citing the 1st, 4th, 5th, and 14th Amendments to the Constitution.

By May 14th, 1964, Hubert and Griffin seemed desperate, questioning the Commission's entire Ruby investigation. Their subject-heading in that memorandum was: "Adequacy of Ruby investigation." With the deadline for the writing of the Report approaching, Hubert and Griffin listed the questions still unanswered:

- (a) Why did Ruby kill Oswald;
- (b) Was Ruby associated with the assassin of President Kennedy;
- (c) Did Ruby have any confederates in the murder of Oswald?

Six months after the Kennedy investigation began, the Ruby researchers were still

asking the same questions they had asked in the beginning. Again they urged that Ruby's Dallas movements, his illegal activities, his Cuban contacts, and all his action on November 22nd and November 23rd be investigated. Hubert and Griffin asked, for example, that Henry Wade, former F.B.I. agent and Dallas district attorney, be interviewed on the report that Jack Ruby had been observed in the Dallas Police Department building November 22nd, 1963. They asked that newsman Seth Kanter be interviewed, who persisted in claiming that he saw and spoke to Jack Ruby (despite Ruby's denials) at Parkland Memorial Hospital, November 22nd, 1963, just after the President was brought in, mortally wounded. Hubert and Griffin's pleas were ignored.

The original deadline for the Warren Report was June 1st, and by the summer of 1964, the main drive was to get out the Report. The deadline was to be delayed four times, until September 24th, 1964, when the Report was finally submitted to President Lyndon B. Johnson. But as early as May, 1964, with the drafting of the Report already in progress, Commission counsel were being advised to *close off their inquiries*. And Hubert and Griffin were making this May 14th admission:

Depositions have been taken from less than one-seventh of the persons who are known to have talked to or seen Ruby on November 22 and 23. Had such an omission occurred in connection with the Oswald investigation, we believe the Commission would consider the work of the staff inadequate both by investigative and historical standards.

Neither Hubert and Griffin nor the Warren Commission accomplished anything before the September 24th publication of the *Warren Report* to change that damning indictment of the Warren Commission's own Ruby probe.

### **Jack Ruby at the Cabana Hotel**

On the night of November 21st, 1963, less than twelve hours before the assassination in Dealey Plaza, eight men and two women were present in the Cabana Hotel, Dallas, Texas. Two of the men identified themselves as New York businessmen; they were brothers: Lawrence and Edward Meyers. Ed Meyers had

left New York on November 8th and visited Mexico between November 9th and November 18th, 1963, arriving in Dallas with his wife to attend the American Bottlers' Convention to which Richard Nixon had come as Pepsi's legal negotiator with the Wynne-Murchison-Rockefeller Great Southwest Corporation. Ed Meyers was one of the owners of a Pepsi bottling company in Queens, New York (the other owner had earlier assisted Joseph McCarthy in his financial difficulties; McCarthy's known friendliness to Pepsi causes earned him the title of the "Pepsi-Cola Kid").

Before the Kefauver Committee, reputed Syndicate boss Meyer Lansky admitted working with an "Ed Myers." Lawrence Meyers told the Warren Commission he was a friend of Jack Ruby for at least five years, visiting Ruby in Dallas frequently. When asked by Burt Griffin of the Commission's staff whether Ruby talked very much about his alleged underworld associations, Larry Meyers answered: "Many times." But Meyers said Ruby spoke only "Generalities...nothing specific...." An F.B.I. report on Lawrence Meyers summarized his activities the night of November 21st. After checking in at the Cabana that morning, "he pursued his normal business affairs," not specified in the report, had dinner, then attended Jack Ruby's Carousel Club accompanied by his traveling companion from Chicago, Miss Jean West. His description of Miss West was sexist and derogatory; she was a "rather dumb, but accommodating broad." The derogation of West might have been intentional, however, in order to minimize her real importance to the Cabana story.

Ruby joined Meyers and West at their Carousel table, and the couple spent an hour at the club, afterward inviting Ruby to the Cabana that same night. Ruby did visit with Meyers, met Ed Meyers, the F.B.I. was told, and Ed Meyers' wife; Ed Meyers "was unable to have dinner [earlier]..., but did meet his brother at...about midnight." Ruby "remained [with the Meyers party] for only a few minutes [it was alleged,] before he left, saying that he had to return to his club."

Had the F.B.I. explored the identity of Lawrence Meyers' companion, Jean West, the Bureau would have found some important Chicago-Dallas-New Orleans connections. David Ferrie had been an employee of reputed Syndicate boss Carlos Marcello (a Trafficante associate and friend of Jimmy Hoffa); but Ferrie also had worked with the Minutemen and the C.I.A., and had admittedly trained Cuban exiles for the Bay of Pigs invasion. During the Clay Shaw investigation, Jim Garrison established that on September 24th, 1963, the same day that Lee Harvey Oswald allegedly left New Orleans to make his Mexico City trip, David Ferrie placed a long-distance telephone call to Chicago. Bell Telephone records subpoenaed by Jim Garrison indicated Ferrie had called WH-4-4970, the Chicago

phone number of Jean Aese West, Lawrence Meyers' female companion when he met with Jack Ruby. Meyers, in turn, had made calls to West at that same number. The Ruby-Meyers-West-Ferrie connection was another lead the Warren Commission could have followed, including the (possibly-unrelated) fact that the Cabana records showed Ralph Meyers, Larry Meyers' son, was also registered. Ralph Meyers had been in the "Army Security Agency," holding crypto-clearance, and had served "someplace outside of Turkey."

Lawrence Meyers admitted to the Warren Commission that Jack Ruby had phoned him "9 or 10 o'clock," the night of November 23rd, 1963; Meyers maintained they had conversed only twenty minutes. The next day, Larry Meyers' friend murdered Lee Harvey Oswald.

Four more tenants at the Cubana should also have interested the Warren Commission: Jim Braden (also known as Eugene Hale Brading), Morgan Brown, and two other business associates.

Deputy Sheriff C.L. "Lummie" Lewis, one of the first Dallas law officers to get to the Depository after the assassination, arrested an individual Lewis judged was "behaving suspiciously" just opposite the Depository. The man he arrested was named Jim Braden according to a credit card he offered as identification (he seemed to lack any other papers). Braden signed a written statement at Dallas police headquarters which alleged he had been in Dallas on oil business, had been "walking down Elm Street trying to get a cab," and had overheard people discussing the assassination. Walking further, he came upon a building "surrounded by police officers." Going to the Dal-Tex building across the street, Braden inquired about an available phone, and was directed, improbably, to the second floor of the Dal-Tex building. Inside, an elevator operator did not recognize Braden as belonging in the building, exited, and brought in Deputy Lewis, who arrested Braden. Braden was interrogated briefly, was not fingerprinted, and released, with no check made of his possible past record.

Two F.B.I. agents questioned Braden on January 29th, 1964, their report concluding: "Braden has no information concerning the assassination and both Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack Ruby are unknown to him." Braden's real identity was supposedly never made available to Commission counsel, and no F.B.I. document in the public record indicates the Bureau knew who he really was. Peter Noyes, an inquisitive media person, *did* investigate, however. On September 10th, 1963, Eugene Hale Brading received a California driver's license under his new legal

name: Jim Braden. Federal authorities could have had access to a lengthy criminal record (under his old name) which included business interests and personal relations with a number of nationally-known organized-crime figures. Brading was another of the reputed Syndicate figures who recognized the virtue of travel. Files at every level of law enforcement: local, state, and federal, were available on Eugene Hale Brading, going back at least twenty years, including materials from several Congressional hearings into labor racketeering; police records also allegedly identified Braden as a Meyer Lansky courier who carried skim money from Vegas to the Bahamas. But when he was questioned after the assassination, Braden maintained he had come from California on some oil business, and his West Coast parole officer confirmed that intention. Inconsistencies in Braden's description of his post-assassination activity ought to have been troubling, but the Commission's investigators seemed indifferent to them.

On the morning of November 21st, 1963, Braden had been scheduled to meet with Lamar Hunt, the son of H.L. Hunt, and several other oil speculators at Hunt's office in the Hunt building. But after the assassination of Robert Kennedy, Braden told the Los Angeles Police Department that he did not accompany his friend Morgan Brown and their two companions to the Hunt office; he cited his criminal record as the reason. Coincidentally, Jack Ruby had driven a young woman, Connie Trammell, to see Lamar Hunt about a job for Trammell on November 21st; Ruby allegedly waited in the lobby for her, but when she seemed to be taking too long, Ruby departed without her and returned to the Carousel Club. Jim Braden and Jack Ruby *could* have been in Lamar Hunt's office at the same time on November 21st (a former security employee of the Hunts maintained that Braden *had* been there); both Braden and Ruby denied they had visited the Hunt office. Instead of "worrying" about a sensational and unproved "Oswald" connection to the Hunts, the House Select Committee on Assassinations ought to explore a possible Ruby-Braden-Brown relationship to the Hunt family on November 21st, 1963. Eugene Hale Brading, registered at the Cabana under his new legal name, Jim Braden, was accompanied by three others, including fellow oil speculator Morgan Brown, reputed ex-convict and alleged swindler. At the same time, the Meyers brothers' party was at the Motel, at one point including Jack Ruby. Did Braden and Brown join Jack Ruby and the Meyers brothers in the Bon Vivant Room of the Cabana? Ruby was no stranger to the Cabana, and Ruby associates also frequented the Hotel. The Warren Commission possessed evidence the Cabana was an alleged "mob hang-out" in the Dallas area; and, inevitably, the Cabana had been built with Teamsters Pension Fund money when Jimmy Hoffa was dispensing the funds' largesse.

Jim Braden had a long record of association with reputed Syndicate Teamsters figures; his record, however, was crowned a few months after the Kennedy assassination, when he was chosen as a charter member of the La Costa Country Club. Recently, Braden has been the focus of a number of organized crime inquiries in Nevada and California. Possibly because of his increased visibility following the La Costa honor, Braden moved to Atlanta, Georgia.

At whatever point Braden's record is examined, some connection to principals in the Kennedy-Castro-Hoffa story is found. For example, David Ferrie, Carlos Marcello's associate, had phoned Jean West in Chicago, the same West who accompanied Larry Meyers to Dallas to visit Jack Ruby. Eugene Hale Brading had worked at the Pere Marquette Building in New Orleans, the autumn of 1963, in Room 1701. In 1963, David Ferrie had also been working for Marcello at the Pere Marquette Building, in Room 1707. Braden and Ferrie were not only connected through Jean West of Chicago; they had been next-door neighbors in New Orleans.

Jim Braden's business associates and friends link him to the Kennedy-Castro-Hoffa story; through Victor Pereira, Braden had access to a network of alleged right-wing individuals, some of whom were known Minutemen, and who had been involved in the Jim Garrison New Orleans investigation. Both Braden and Pereira had known associations with Eugene and Clyde Smaldone, alleged Syndicate leaders in Denver, Colorado. Braden and Pereira had business relations with Arthur Lewis Clark and Roger Bauman; Clark was reputedly a former member of the "Purple Gang" of Youngstown and Detroit, and had known associations with the Smaldone brothers as well as with the circle of people in touch with the Dragnas of California and Johnny Roselli. That same circle allegedly included the Sica family, George, Fred, and Joe, the latter reputedly one of the powers (with Roselli) in West-Coast organized crime. Finally, Jim Braden had a long and complex business association with the man whom law officers credited with no fewer than sixteen Syndicate assassinations, an associate of the Dragnas, the Sicas, and Johnny Roselli: John Fratianno (we will meet Fratianno again in Chapter 20).

James Herbert Martin, the former manager of the Wynne-Murchison Rockefeller Great Southwest Corporation motel, the Seven Flags in Arlington, Texas, was Marina Oswald's business manager for a time, and arranged a sizeable amount of money be paid to himself, to his lawyer, to Robert Oswald, and to Marina from Meredith Press, through C. D. Jackson, Edward K. Thompson, and Isaac Don Levine. As Peter Dale Scott reported, both Jackson and Levine had C.I.A. ties, and

Martin had a relationship with Jack Ruby that dated from the time Martin had worked for the Statler-Hilton and, afterward, managed a Dallas "bottle club." One of Martin's business ventures involved Charles William Deaton, who had reputed links to the same Smaldone family of Denver with which Braden, Pereira, and Clark were allegedly familiar.

The Nancy Perrin Rich story linking Jack Ruby to (1) attempts to smuggle weapons into Cuba and (2) plans to get "refugees" out of Cuba is well-known. What concerns us is Rich's statements that she worked for the Syndicate in Denver, Colorado, and that she also had a connection to the Dragna family of California. Testimony that the Smaldones of Denver (who allegedly worked with the Braden group of California) and the Dragna family of California (who allegedly operated in the Roselli circle) were associated with persons known to, and working with, Jack Ruby in the years and months prior to the assassination should have alerted the Warren Commission to Ruby's underworld contacts - and his real identity.

Jim Braden's connections to the Syndicate group linked to the intelligence-crime-business group with interests in exploiting the Gulf Coast, Cuba, and the Bahamas, his life-long involvement in oil exploration and speculation, and his possible role in the overlapping Cabana-Lamar Hunt groups present in Dallas on November 21st and 22nd, 1963, should interest the House Select Committee on Assassinations, especially where Braden's multiple interests coincided with Ruby's and with those in Dallas who helped build a protective circle around Marina Oswald immediately after the Kennedy assassination.

### **Jack Ruby and Cuba**

Through a dozen sources available to the Warren Commission, Ruby's role as a Hoffa-Lansky gangster with police and domestic intelligence ties specializing in "Cuban affairs" could have been definitively established: Ruby's Cuban business interest; his inquiries into the possibility of owning a Havana casino; his close relationship to Louis J. McWillie giving him access to all of the Syndicate-Havana gambling, smuggling, gunrunning, narcotics, and money-laundering activities of organized crime as well as direct contact with the same Syndicate group recruited by the C.I.A. to murder Fidel Castro; his known past and continuing association with Dave Yaras who participated in both the Havana Syndicate gambling operation and in Santo Trafficante's Florida and Cuban activities; the F.B.I. reports linking him to Carlos Prio Socarras involved in Havana casino operations and illegal gun traffic; his ties to the Chicago Lenny Patrick/Dave Yaras betting circle which could be linked

directly to fraudulent securities operations and the Syndicate-mercenary-exiled Cuban alliance associated with C.I.A.-Syndicate figure Mike McLaney (a known Lansky delegate) and the Lake Pontchartrain arms cache and anti-Castro training camp. Mark Lane, Canfield and Weberman, Bernard Fensterwald, and Peter Dale Scott have exhaustively documented Ruby's concentration on Cuba, and, as Sylvia Meagher observed, the Warren Commission minimized Ruby's reported involvement in exile-Cuban groups and their affairs. When the Report dealt with Ruby's two known trips to Cuba to "visit" McWillie, it first acknowledged both, then treated two trips as one. Sloppy proof-reading of the Report presented to the president of the United States could have been the excuse. But the Warren Commission's investigators, the Commission's counsel, and the Commission itself found it necessary, it seems, to minimize not only Ruby's Cuban travels, but all his travels, from 1937 through 1963.

### **Jack Ruby and Travel**

The Commission ignored, suppressed, withheld, distorted, or minimized the abundant evidence that Jack Ruby, like so many other Syndicate figures (including Meyer Lansky, the epitome of the peripatetic criminal), traveled widely both for his own profit and for organized crime, and that when he traveled he was recognized in the role he played, often by the police or police-associated figures with whom he consorted. Dozens of documents available in the Warren Commission's public record support this conclusion; the following Commission Exhibit (CE 1559) illustrates the entire mass of evidence:

### **FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

Date: December 2, 1963

CARLOS JOSEPH MALONE, also known as "Chubby Malone," who operates Duffy's Tavern, 308 East Market Street, Louisville, Kentucky, a known hangout for prostitutes, advised as follows:

In the summer of either 1957 or 1958 he went from Louisville, Kentucky, to Ellis Park Race Track at Henderson, Kentucky, with the late Lieutenant ELLIS JOSEPH, also known as "Gyp" Joseph, who had been a member of the Louisville Police Department from 1934 until permitted to resign in 1952 as an outgrowth of charges alleging theft.

While at Ellis Park, JOSEPH introduced him to a JACK RUBY, whom he recalled is the same individual whose photograph has recently appeared in newspaper publicity in connection with the shooting of LEE



HARVEY OSWALD. JOSEPH told him RUBY was "a syndicate man out of Chicago." MALONE did not know where RUBY was living at the time. Lieutenant JOSEPH appeared to be well acquainted with RUBY and both remained together during the races at the track on that particular day.

MALONE advised that JOSEPH told him that RUBY was a "good friend", and had some "hot" horses, that is, tips on winners, allegedly on the horses that were being bet by the "syndicate" on that date. MALONE stated that RUBY had a number of winners that date. RUBY was accompanied by an unrecalled white male, age 45 to 50, of Jewish extraction. This individual remained with RUBY and JOSEPH on that occasion.

MALONE has had no contact with RUBY since that time.

MALONE was unaware of any other contacts or associates of RUBY and had no information indicating membership by RUBY in any group or association whatsoever excepting as previously referred to as the "syndicate."

The signatures of the two F.B.I. agents who conducted the "investigation" were appended.

A single Warren Commission document, resonating with hundreds of other Warren Commission documents at some pitch which was inaudible to resolute Commission investigators: but all the dogs in the neighborhood of the National Archives are going mad with the unbearable din.

### **A Syndicate Man Out of Chicago**

Moses Annenberg had gone to prison; James Ragen had been murdered; the Chicago Syndicate was in control of the racing wire the two had developed. The veterans of the Capone-Nitti days still held power; in the years just after the war, Charlie Fischetti, Tony Accardo, Jake Guzik, Paul Ricca, and Murray Humphreys held the greatest power. By the sixties, Accardo, Humphreys, and Ricca would function as elder statesmen, a "board of directors" or "court of appeals"; Sam Giancana was by then the "president of the corporation." But in the immediate post-war years, Fischetti, Accardo, Ricca, and Humphreys held the home office together, and Jake Guzik (reputed bagman and business manager) and his associate Hymie Levin (or Levine) looked for new territories and new investments. In Los Angeles, San Francisco, Louisville, St. Louis, Kansas City, New Orleans,

Shreveport, Oklahoma City, and Omaha - into the Plains States, the Southwest, and West - the representatives of Guzik and Levin were showing up as "salesmen" for the Chicago racing wire - and checking out the areas for new sources of gambling revenue. Guzik and Levin sent their men to Dallas, and Paul Roland Jones and his good friend Jack Ruby arrived in 1947, when the big Chicago push was just beginning. According to a 98-page statement left by the murdered James Ragen (prepared in case he were to die), the Chicago mob intended to move out into the entire country, its activities including the sale of black market sugar (recall Ruby's sister, Eva Grant, was reportedly involved in transporting black market sugar-rationing stamps for the Chicago people), the sale of the national racing wire service, and control of gambling.

Paul Roland Jones and his associate, Romeo Jack Nappi, approached sheriff-elect Steve Guthrie and vice squad Lt. George Butler. The Jones-Nappi/Guthrie-Butler negotiations began in May, 1947, after the Guzik-Levin people had surveyed the possibilities in Dallas: the Chicago Syndicate estimated the area would yield a gross of \$17 million a year - about \$90,000 a month - and Jones and Nappi allegedly offered to cut in the District Attorney and Sheriff at

\$1,000 a week or a twelve and a half percent cut on the profit if the syndicate were permitted to operate in Dallas under "complete protection."

According to Butler, Jones offered Guthrie 50% of the profits on the racing service. What Jones and Nappi did not know was that Guthrie had wired their conversations for sound: twenty-two recordings were made, later heard by (1) a grand jury, (2) the Kefauver Committee, and (3) an F.B.I. agent who listened to them for the Warren Commission.

According to the Kefauver Committee, Dallas Syndicate operations would be conducted by "local people" who would front for Guzik and Levin. Steve Guthrie testified to the Warren Commission that Jack Ruby was "frequently mentioned," and that "Ruby would operate a 'fabulous' restaurant as a front for gambling activities." But the single Bureau agent who allegedly listened to twenty-two hours of recording, preparing no transcript, maintained that Jack Ruby was not mentioned. Butler, in whose possession the valuable recordings had been since the Kefauver Committee had listened to them, also maintained that Ruby's name had not come up. One problem: the first two hours - when it was most likely that Jack Ruby's name would have been given to Guthrie as the "local" person who would front for the mob - were missing and never found.

Guthrie, an ex-sergeant in the Air Transport Command, had been a credible witness: he was disbelieved by the Warren Commission. Butler, in whose personal possession a vital recording disappeared - and who reported, without evidence of any kind, that Oswald was Ruby's illegitimate son - was believed by the Commission.

But earlier, Butler had corroborated Guthrie, disclosing that "Jack Ruby came to Dallas...in an attempt to bribe Sheriff Steve Guthrie." Butler's motive for denying what he earlier admitted - Ruby's part in the Guzik-Levin/Jones-Nappi move into Dallas - probably derived from Ruby's long association with the "vice squad," Dallas's Special Services Bureau, and Butler's role in that Bureau. Peter Dale Scott has pointed out that Ruby's activities as police pay-off man, Syndicate representative, and police informant, were consistent with the Butler-Guthrie-Jones story. Syndicate representative Jones suggested to the Warren Commission that the best information on Ruby could be gained from the head of the Syndicate in Dallas (Marcello-Trafficante delegate Joe Civello), a suggestion which must have chilled the Commission's investigators.

The evidence indicated that Guzik and Hymie Levin had sent a number of Chicago people to the Dallas area, including Jones and Ruby. Hymie Levin, incidentally, was the same man who twelve years later offered Frank Sturgis a Syndicate contract to kill Castro in Cuba. Ruby's travels after 1947 exactly matched the reported stops the Guzik-Levin Syndicate "salesmen" were making in promoting the race wire and opening up gambling for the Chicago group. Ruby sojourned to Louisville, Tulsa, Shreveport, Oklahoma City, New Orleans, and a dozen more cities: and over and over, the F.B.I. discovered Jack Ruby's involvement in gambling, his organized crime connections or reputation, and that he "seemed to have good contacts with the police" or former police officers - across the *United States*. Ruby traveled: in 1937, he visited Las Vegas several times; in 1939-1940, announcing he was a field organizer for the Teamsters, he left Chicago; in 1940, he traveled in Ohio, New York, and through New England, ostensibly as a salesman; from Dallas in 1952, he traveled to Chicago and back; in the 1952-1954 period, he was reported to be involved in gunrunning out of Miami; in 1958, rumors circulated that Ruby was a principal in smuggling to Cuba out of Florida; in 1959, Ruby telephoned Robert McKeown in Houston, stating he wished to secure the freedom of unnamed prisoners in Cuba; in 1959, Ruby was arrested in Oklahoma City on gambling charges; in 1959, Ruby traveled to Havana, out of Miami, at least two separate times; in 1963, a New Orleans vice squad officer believed he observed Jack Ruby in the company of two reported Syndicate figures; just before the assassination, Jack Ruby was reported to have been in Las Vegas and Houston. Between November 22nd, 1963, and November 24, 1963, Jack Ruby was known to

have been in Dallas, Texas.

**Jack Ruby, the Dallas Police, J. Edgar Hoover, President Lyndon Johnson, and the Overcautious F.B.I.**

Under provisions of the Federal Freedom of Information Act, we received F.B.I. documents relating to Jack Ruby not previously published or available in the Commission's public record; at least the F.B.I. implied the documents had not been previously published. One of those documents was a Hoover memorandum dated November 29th, 1963, to his assistants and deputy directors. Hoover had just concluded a private telephonic conversation with Lyndon Johnson, briefing the anxious president on the progress of the F.B.I.'s assassination inquiry. It is now clear, of course, that the Bureau Director's intention was to block any independent investigation into the deaths of Kennedy, Oswald, and J. D. Tippit. For Johnson, the problem was a possible connection between the alleged assassin and his murderer; if one could be found, the rumors of conspiracy would be fueled. For Hoover, the goal was obvious: to suggest the possibility the Dallas police were lax in not preventing, and possibly directly involved in, Ruby's murder of Oswald. The memorandum, withheld for almost thirteen years, is heavily edited. Of the four pages received from the F.B.I., almost three are obliterated by deliberate censorship. But we did learn two important things: that Hoover was using scare tactics on the President (one can hear Hoover saying: "What if the *Dallas police*...you know, Mr. President, police in *Texas*...where you're from, right, Mr. President...? What if...?"); and that the F.B.I. withheld sections of its own document which had *already been released by a committee of the United States Senate*. First, the Hoover-Johnson conversation, reported by memorandum to Tolson, Belmont, Mohr, Conrad, DeLoach, Evans, Rosen, and Sullivan:

The President asked if we have any relationship between the two (Oswald and Rubenstein) as yet. I replied that at the present time we have not; that there was a story that the fellow had been in Rubenstein's nightclub but it has not been confirmed. I told the President that Rubenstein was a very seedy character...; that he was an egomaniac; that he likes to be in the limelight; knew all of the police officers in the white light district; let them come in and get food and liquor, etc.; *and that is how I think he got into police headquarters. I said if they ever made any move [to stop Ruby], the pictures did not show it even when they saw him approach and he got right up to Oswald and pressed the pistol against Oswald's stomach; that neither officer on either side made any effort to grab Rubenstein - not until after the pistol was fired.* (italics added)

Hoover's intention was apparent, but the zest with which he must have delivered his "report" to the president and the relish with which he recounts that "report" quicken J. Edgar Hoover's usually-moribund style.

The F.B.I. informed us that a dozen statutory reasons absolved it from giving us the rest of the document. But the Senate Intelligence Committee released that material in 1976. The Bureau must have felt it would be a bad thing to circulate (any more widely) the section of the memorandum the Church Committee had already made public. In brief, in the already-released portion, Hoover indicated to his clutch of aides he intended to oppose President Johnson's plans for taking the Kennedy assassination out of the hands of the Bureau and giving it to a select commission appointed by the president. One can see, I think, why the F.B.I. would not want us to have the two separate parts of the previously-withheld Hoover memorandum; in one part, the Bureau Director indicated his intention to hang on to the assassination probe and oppose the president; in the other section, Hoover reported to the president and seemed to have hinted broadly that the Dallas police might have been involved with Jack Ruby in the killing of Lee Harvey Oswald.

### **Jack Ruby and the F.B.I.: New Evidence of Ruby's Role As a Domestic Intelligence Informant - the So-Called "302" Reports**

When CD 1052 became available to Kennedy researchers in 1975 and the fact of Ruby's "Potential Criminal Informant" status with the F.B.I. in 1959 was established, the historians and analysts of the assassination immediately speculated on the so-called F.B.I. "302" reports which must have been filled-in and filed by Bureau agent Charles Flynn, Jack Ruby's F.B.I. contact. If Ruby's "302" reports showed something more than J. Edgar Hoover had admitted to Rankin in 1964, then charges of an F.B.I. cover-up of its relationship with Ruby would be bolstered. Late in 1976, those so-called "302" reports were received by me and John Richters, III, from the F.B.I. under provisions of the Federal Freedom of Information Act. They are heavily censored and in Bureau "code." But a good part of the story of Ruby's 1959 contacts with the F.B.I. and what he and Agent Flynn conferred about can be told, despite the continued suppression of Ruby evidence by the Bureau.

Three sets of recently-released Jack Ruby documents established (1) the distress of the Warren Commissions counsel in believing their Ruby inquiry was inadequate; (2) J. Edgar Hoover's 1964 admissions to the Commission's Chief Counsel J. Lee Rankin that Ruby may have worked for the F.B.I. - a fact suppressed for nearly twelve years until CD 1052 was obtained by assassination researchers in

1975; (3) Hoover's withholding from the Warren Commission - and from the American people - the extent of Jack Ruby's informant role for the F.B.I., a domestic intelligence service. Ruby's role as an F.B.I. informer is consistent with what we know or strongly suspect about Ruby's informant status in Chicago with the Illinois State's Attorney's office in 1938 and 1939, with what we know or strongly suspect about Ruby's informant status with the Federal government in 1946 and 1947, and with what we know about Ruby's status with the Dallas Police's Special Services Bureau in the 1950s and 1960s.

This latest set of recently-released F.B.I. documents indicates extensive conversations between Jack Ruby's F.B.I. contact and Ruby during eight separate meetings over an eight-month period in 1959, the same year the C.I.A. enlisted (1) organized crime figures *with ties to Jack Ruby* and (2) anti-Castro Cubans *with ties to associates of Jack Ruby* for assassination attempts on Fidel Castro; the same year that Jack Ruby made at least two trips to Cuba to visit Louis J. McWillie (and, according to a C.I.A. document, Santo Trafficante) in Havana at the Tropicana casino (controlled by partners and associates of Meyer Lansky) whose owners and managers were the same reputed Syndicate figures recruited by the C.I.A. to murder Castro.

The importance of the Ruby-F.B.I. contacts as well as the suppression of the fact of those contacts is increased when considered in their domestic-intelligence/Cuban/Syndicate/C.I.A. context. For Jack Ruby to have had a continuing record of close association with the police of various cities, particularly the police's vice squads, and specifically Dallas's Special Services Bureau, was serious enough for the Commission to overlook. But to ignore his continuing contacts with Syndicate figures (who, in turn, were working with the C.I.A.), with anti-Castro Cubans, and with powerful members of the Dallas area's conservative community *and* its political power structure was to invite belief in randomness and coincidence as major organizing principles of the universe. The laws of probability and rules of evidence were not permanently suspended in a geographical circle of several miles whose center was Dealey Plaza on November 22nd, 1963.

Though F.B.I. Director J. Edgar Hoover maintained in 1964 that no information was gained from Ruby, the newly-released documents indicate a great range of topics, crimes, states, and individuals about which F.B.I. agent Flynn and Jack Ruby conferred. Additionally, still-suppressed items are apparent throughout the FD-209 forms (popularly called "302" reports).

The documents include Flynn's eight-page "Potential Criminal Informant" memorandum to the Agent in Charge of the Dallas F.B.I. office, giving background information on Ruby and the results of Flynn's first informant interview with Ruby. Much of the key material of this document and the six FD-209 informant reports from Flynn covering the rest of the meetings with Jack Ruby (March 11th, 1959 to October 2nd, 1959) would have been inaccessible but for a recently-declassified "Confidential" handbook for Federal investigators, *Where's What*, prepared by Harry J. Murphy, Office of Security, C.I.A., and published in 1976.

Flynn's initial PCI memo noted under "Coverage" that Ruby could be - or had already become - a source of information on violations of the White Slave Traffic Act (that is, prostitution) and on interstate transportation of stolen property. On p. 7 of the P.C.I. memo, under "Advised of Bureau Jurisdiction," Agent Flynn supplied considerably more material than Hoover did to Warren Commission General Counsel J. Lee Rankin. On June 9th, 1964, Hoover had written to Rankin: "Ruby was advised of FBI's jurisdiction in criminal matters...." But Flynn actually communicated to Ruby the F.B.I.'s interest in developing information through him about domestic intelligence in bank robbery, burglary, larceny, kidnapping, interstate transportation of stolen property, the White Slave Traffic Act, unlawful flight to avoid prosecution, unlawful flight to avoid confinement, and extortion: areas quite a bit more extensive than Hoover's succinct "criminal matters," and indicating that Ruby was believed to be a potential source of information on unlawful activity not only in Dallas and Texas, but also a potential source of information on interstate crime, precisely the domestic jurisdiction of the F.B.I. as it related to J. Edgar Hoover's non-existent "Mafia" and the "syndicate" (as it was referred to in F.B.I. reports on Ruby submitted to the Warren Commission).

Though no evidence is available in the Commission's public record that actual payments were made to Ruby, F.B.I. agent Flynn indicated the Bureau's willingness at least to pay "for expenses" on a "COD basis," so long as Ruby understood that such monies would have to be reported on his income tax.

On several pages of Flynn's PCI memo appear circumstantial indications of further withholding of information: "Past History" is blank, and "Productivity to Date" is blank; finally, the category "Conclusions and Recommendations" is blank.

On the interview forms themselves, the areas which Flynn initially indicated to Ruby as concerns of the Bureau are thereafter cited as topics of the meetings; but one of the contact meetings also covered interstate transportation of gambling devices, lottery tickets, and obscene matter.

Contradictions are apparent throughout the Flynn informant reports filed on Ruby. The "results of contact" box is designated "negative" on each report; but in the "Rating" box - Ruby's rating as a potential criminal informant (or as an actual criminal informant) - Ruby scores "Average" twice and "Good" for the six remaining contacts.

What did Ruby have to offer the F.B.I.? If we collect the topics and information not subjected to continuing Bureau suppression, an interesting pattern emerges. Ruby either offered information on, or was asked to supply information about, eleven bank robberies; unspecified thefts; stolen property; fur thefts; and a jewel robbery. The values of those crimes were sometimes listed, ranging from an amount as low as \$7,152.04 to one as high as \$128,982. In all, at least \$360,320 worth of thefts, robberies, and burglaries were discussed by Flynn and Ruby.

What was the geographical range of the Flynn-Ruby discussions? Five of the crimes had been committed in Texas (Dallas, Houston, and Santo); two had been committed in Kansas (Durham and Wichita) and one had been committed in each of the following cities: Ontario (California), Louisville, Chicago, and Baltimore, - nine cities in six states, from California to Maryland. If the F.B.I. allowed us to know this much, how much else did it suppress about Jack Ruby's involvement in the F.B.I.'s domestic intelligence operations?

That fount of information on the intelligence connections of Ruby and Oswald, Hugh Aynesworth (at the time of the assassination a *Dallas Times-Herald* reporter), told the *Texas Monthly* the F.B.I. contacted Ruby

as an informer on drugs, gambling and organized crime, but everytime they contacted him, Ruby tried to get his competitors in trouble...and after awhile the FBI gave up on the idea.

If Aynesworth's information was correct, he was able to develop F.B.I. sources not available to other American citizens; and if his categories are accurate, then they are either "additional" (and possibly *primary* areas) about which Flynn and Ruby met, or they are the actual areas of information, and the alleged informant reports are partly or wholly faked. One other possibility exists, of course; Hugh Aynesworth may not know what he is talking about.



The new Ruby documents enlarge our area of understanding of Jack Ruby as a Hoffa-Lansky gangster specializing in Cuban affairs and doubling as a police and intelligence informant. What the documents do not tell us is what was covered, exactly, in the final meeting on October 2nd, 1959, just one month after Ruby had visited McWillie and, according to a recently-released C.I.A. memo dated November 28th, 1963, one month after a possible meeting between Ruby and Santo Trafficante while the reputed Tampa-Havana Syndicate leader was being held in a Castro prison in 1959. Evidence reviewed by the House Select Committee on Assassinations indicated that Trafficante was a part of the C.I.A.-Organized Crime attempts against Castro. If F.B.I. agent Flynn had pursued this obvious lead - Ruby's recent visit to McWillie in Cuba - Flynn might have been able to link his "Potential Criminal Informant" to McWillie, Trafficante, Giancana, and Roselli while all of them were still alive, while the Syndicate-C.I.A. assassination plot against Fidel Castro was still in its early planning stages, and while John F. Kennedy was still untouched by the hail of rifle rounds that murdered him in Dealey Plaza on November 22nd, 1963.



## **CHAPTER 14**

### **"SALLY'S STASH": THE FIRST C.I.A.-SYNDICATE PLOT AGAINST FIDEL CASTRO AND ITS ORGANIZED CRIME CONTEXTS**

#### **"An Employee of a New York Garment Manufacturer"**

Russell Bufalino went Jack Ruby one better: Bufalino's thumb *and* index finger had been amputated. And whatever Ruby's status had been in the Syndicate's complex hierarchy, no uncertainty existed about Bufalino's place within the Mafia and the much larger International Crime Syndicate. According to the McClellan Committee, Bufalino was "one of the most ruthless and powerful leaders of the Mafia in the United States." A Federal sentencing memorandum of October 21st, 1977 alleged that Bufalino "...controls organized crime in the upstate New York and northeastern Pennsylvania regions as well as parts of New York City." Bufalino's known associates included the Mannarino brothers of Pittsburg, Havana casino operators implicated in the C.I.A.-Syndicate attempts against Castro. Bufalino himself had Cuban gambling interests in association with Meyer Lansky and others, and was reputed to be a major force in labor racketeering in Pennsylvania and New York City; he owned the Penn Drape and Curtain Co. of Pittston as well as having interests in other dress-making concerns in Pennsylvania and New York. But in 1977, the New York Times reported Bufalino had been identified only as "an employee of a New York garment manufacturer."

The alleged Mafia boss of all of industrialized northeastern Pennsylvania was credited in McClellan Committee records with arranging the disastrous Mafia meeting of November 14th, 1957, at the country home of Magaddino lieutenant Joseph Barbara in upstate Apalachin, New York, near Bufalino's Pennsylvania territory. That conference was attended by more than 100 reported Mafia figures - and its major agenda item was said to have been Vito Genovese's assumption of absolute power in the Mafia.

The Apalachin meeting followed only a few weeks after the murder of Albert Anastasia on October 25th, 1957, at the Park Sheraton Hotel (where Arnold Rothstein had died in 1928). In November, 1956, National Crime Syndicate leaders Lansky, Zwillman, Luchese, Anastasia (and others) had agreed to Frank Costello's request for a peaceful retirement. What followed was the beginning of a Syndicate war, and if it is true that Russell Bufalino arranged the Apalachin Mafia meeting, he had much to do with its outcome: the ascendancy of Meyer Lansky, and the ensuing events in Cuba and the United States.

Lansky and Genovese, at best, tolerated each other; but between Lansky and Anastasia there was nothing but enmity, dating back to Anastasia's attempts to wrest control of Cuban Syndicate gambling operations (under Fulgencio Batista) from Meyer Lansky. What resulted from that earlier Lansky-Anastasia confrontation was Santo Trafficante's defection to Lansky - with the Tampa boss playing double agent for Lansky against Anastasia.

Vito Genovese's obsessive ambition in 1957 to become the new *capo di tutti capi* ("head of all heads," that is, not only of the Mafia but of the entire Lansky-Luciano international crime network) was finally focused on Luciano's proxy - Frank Costello. As long as Costello was alive, Genovese was in danger - or so he thought. Most of Costello's large holdings were to be split between Lansky (and his associate Phil Kastel) and Vito Genovese, with more than enough remaining for others. Genovese, however, wanted more. And Costello had helped negate Genovese's drive to include the production and sale of narcotics as money-making activities of organized crime. Costello's benevolent cooperativeness and his plan to take over legitimate businesses conflicted with Genovese's authoritarian and brutal passion, his penchant for covert action. Genovese had been a personal friend of Benito Mussolini (he had been decorated by the Italian dictator), had actively participated in the Italian fascist movement, and had suspected ties to both American and German intelligence during his black-marketeering days with the American invasion army in Italy (and, it seems, he was protected by high

American military figures): an ominous prelude to the Warren Commission testimony of Nancy Perrin Rich concerning Jack Ruby's complicity in an apparent anti-Castro/American Army/Syndicate gun-smuggling plot which allegedly included a blood relative of Vito Genovese.

On May 2nd, 1957, after drinking with one set of Syndicate friends and dining with another, Costello left the restaurant and his companions about 11:00 p.m., "explaining that he was expecting an important call from his Washington lawyer, Edward Bennett Williams." On schedule, Costello returned to the Majestic Apartments and was wounded in the head by an assassin's bullet fired by a Genovese associate Vincente Gigante (according to an identification made by the Majestic's doorman). Gigante later stood trial, but was acquitted when Costello declined to identify Gigante as the alleged gunman.

Meyer Lansky would bide his time during what he felt to be an internecine Mafia battle; Costello could not count on his active support. "Longie" Zwillman was in trouble with income tax authorities after a Kefauver Committee appearance. Costello was vulnerable - but alive - and therefore dangerous to Genovese. So Genovese called a New Jersey Mafia meeting to rally support to him. Only one leader did not respond, Augie Carfano, and Genovese sent his aide, Anthony Cornero Strollo (also known as "Tony Bender") to bring in Carfano. Later, Jack Ruby's notebook would include in its list of powerful Teamster and Syndicate names that of Milt Jaffe, Stardust Casino major investor and partner of Tony Bender - and Bender had been (1) a California bootlegger working with Zwillman and Johnny Roselli and (2) "a World War 11 OSS undercover operative in Latin America."

Earlier, Bender had been known as "Tony Cornero, King of the Western Rumrunners" in the 1920s when he worked with Roselli, who saved a Bender shipment of 4000 cases of smuggled liquor and, in the process, made contact with the Canadian Reinfeld Syndicate and its "superintendent of transportation," Abner "Longie" Zwillman. Zwillman appointed Roselli his West Coast representative as a result of Roselli's successful booze bravery. Later, Roselli's associate Tony Bender would figure importantly throughout Joseph Valachi's revelations of Vito Genovese's Mafia operations.

Threatened, he felt, by Luciano, Costello, and the Anastasia family, Genovese moved to split the forces which could unite against him following his attempted hit on Frank Costello. Luciano and Adonis, both exiled in Italy, had supported

Costello's bid for non-violent retirement. And Luciano's old family, headed by Anastasia and Frank Scalise (a close associate of Luciano) would side with Costello in any showdown. Genovese knew that Costello and Luciano had been meeting together secretly, so he took the offensive against Frank Scalise and his brother Joe. Damaging rumors were planted, Frank Scalise became suspect, and as a result was murdered by the Mafia on June 17th, 1957. Joe Scalise disappeared on September 7th, 1957. With the elimination of the Scalise brothers, Carlo Gambino became second in command of the Anastasia family. Genovese and Gambino met privately through the summer and early autumn of 1957, and Anastasia's future was nullified. Gambino would become head of the Luciano-Anastasia family, be given some profitable Genovese operations, and Gambino would support Genovese in his drive to the top of organized crime.

Word of the Genovese-Gambino plot against Anastasia reached Lansky - and Lansky unexpectedly approved. Anastasia's operations against Lansky in Cuba, including the involvement of Santo Trafficante, reportedly earned Anastasia Lansky's hate. Lansky associate Joe Profaci allegedly supplied the executioner - "Crazy Joe" Gallo - and Anastasia fell dead at the Sheraton barber shop under a hail of bullets.

So the Apalachin Mafia meeting, said to have been arranged by Russell Bufalino, was to explain the Costello and Anastasia hits, solidify Genovese's power, and come to some definitive decision on Genovese's narcotics policy.

It was a Barbara associate's "meat-buying and motel-room-reserving spree" which supposedly alerted New York State Sergeant Edgar D. Crosswell to the surprising influx of "Cadillacs and Continentals...driving up to the Barbara estate...." Oddly enough, Sergeant Crosswell had only a "force of three state troopers" with which "he set up roadblocks around the property," though he did call for "additional help." A minor Mafia figure is supposed to have seen the Crosswell stake-out and alerted the one-hundred-odd leaders, who then scattered ignominiously. Crosswell and his reinforced troopers did round up sixty Mafia leaders, including Vito Genovese, Profaci, Jack Ruby's alleged associate Joe Civello (Dallas underboss representing Carlos Marcello), and Santo Trafficante - a reluctant guest who was persuaded to attend by Meyer Lansky. One of a number of Apalachin escapees was another Lansky-Trafficante associate, Sam Giancana.

Crosswell's curiosity may have been piqued by a covert message from Lansky himself - with Trafficante present to allay Genovese's possible suspicion. Whatever the responsibility of Russell Bufalino (who was captured by Crosswell), Santo Trafficante, or Meyer Lansky in arranging and then sabotaging the Mafia Apalachin conference, the result was a triumph for Lansky (and his associates) and chaos for Genovese - who forever lost his chance to become the Mafia "boss of all bosses."

If no suspicion attached to either Bufalino or Trafficante (or Lansky), former intelligence operator and smuggler Tony Bender was not so fortunate. Bender, also known as Anthony Cornero Strollo was according to one source the "mystery man of the syndicate." Bender had been "one of the most powerful racketeers in the U.S., concentrating his attentions on the northern New Jersey dock area." The former West Coast bootlegger left his home on a chilly April 8th in 1962, and was never seen again. Bender's loyalty had been a matter of some concern, especially since he had been known to trade it for money. According to Syndicate sources, Vito Genovese himself put out the contract on Bender, his former ally. Abner "Longie" Zwillman, who may have been instrumental in setting up Genovese for narcotics conspiracy charges (on which he was convicted in the spring of 1959), was found on February 27th, 1959, in his West Orange, N. J. home hanging from the ceiling, a wire wrapped around his neck underneath the rope, his body beaten, and his hands tied with more wire. The official verdict: suicide. Thus ended the life of the former lover of Jean Harlow: thus ended his days of association with Meyer Lansky and Vito Genovese (again suspected of letting out the contract on Zwillman through Gerry Catena, Genovese's underboss).

Russell Bufalino remained alive and well.

### **Friends in a Number of High Places**

James Riddle Hoffa gained control and maintained that control, first as Chairman of the Teamsters' Central States Conference, then as president of the International Brotherhood, through hoodlum power. The McClellan Committee - led by committee counsel Robert Kennedy - found at least 47 "gangster[s] and racketeers about whom there [was] testimony regarding associations with Teamster officials." The Committee detailed not only the mob affiliations of Teamster leaders, but published a long list of alleged Syndicate figures in control of Teamsters' locals - including the name of Anthony "Tony Pro" Provenzano, president of Teamsters Local 560, Hoboken, New Jersey (Provenzano would later be a primary suspect in the disappearance of Jimmy Hoffa). Among Provenzano's close associates

was Carmine Tramunti (later convicted of contempt before a federal grand jury; afterward, the reported leader of the Thomas Lucchese Mafia family - with the assent of Genovese's one-time ally, Carlo Gambino of New York). Other close friends of "Tony Pro" were Tony Bender, identified as an intelligence operator and labor racketeer involved in the Genovese-Costello battles, and Antonio "Tony Ducks" Corallo. Corallo had a lengthy arrest sheet and, as a Teamsters official, allegedly controlled no fewer than five New York union locals.

Corallo's reputed specialty was the corruption of public officials - an illicit expertise that would ultimately generate a 1967 scandal involving James Marcus, an official of N.Y. Mayor John V. Lindsey's Republican administration; the head of a crime-controlled bakery union; the president of a major New York construction firm; Consolidated Edison of New York; Carmine De Sapio, once the leader of Tammany Hall and, therefore, of the regular New York City Democratic machine; Herbert Itkin, an alleged bribe courier for corrupt union pay-offs; and Jimmy Plumeri.

James ("Jimmy Doyle") Plumeri, a powerful Mafia figure in the New York area, had two well-known nephews, Tommy and Johnny Dioguardi - the Dio brothers. Both Tony Corallo and Johnny Dioguardi would be named during the 1957 McClellan Committee investigation as taking part in the alleged Syndicate take-over of the Chicago Waste Handlers Union following the shooting of Jack Ruby's friend, Leon Cooke. Plumeri and the Dioguardi brothers were allegedly in trucking and labor racketeering as well as garment manufacturing scams (Plumeri's Havana casino associate, Russell Bufalino, also was reported to be involved in the same activities), and Plumeri and his two nephews were members of Tommy "Three-Finger" Brown's Mafia organization: the Thomas Lucchese family. In the late 60's, Plumeri's friend Tramunti would reportedly head the Lucchese mob.

In the late 1960s, like other Lansky associates, Plumeri was a Hoffa Teamsters official having access to union treasury funds. Plumeri reportedly dealt with Herbert Itkin on several occasions, utilizing the self-styled "labor lawyer" as a middleman in the transmission of bribes from financially-pressed businessmen to corruptible union officials. The money was paid to get rarely-repaid loans from union treasuries.

In December, 1967, James L. Marcus, Mayor John V. Lindsay's top aide and commissioner of water supply, gas, and electricity, was indicted by a federal grand jury on conspiracy charges in the placement of an \$835,000 Jerome Park Reservoir cleaning contract. Named with Marcus in the indictment were (1) a lawyer, (2) a



contracting company president, (3) Anthony Corallo, (4) Daniel Motto (president of local 350 of the Bakers and Confectionary Workers Union), and (5) labor lawyer Herbert Itkin.

Tony Corallo, of course, was a personal friend of Jimmy Hoffa and (among other activities) had allegedly taken part in a trucking racket in Queens County. Daniel Motto had earlier been convicted of racketeering in World War II ration stamps. Motto's union was expelled (along with Dorfman's Chicago Waste Handlers Union) from the AFL-CIO following the 1957 revelations of the McClellan Committee. Motto had brought Lindsay-aide James Marcus to Tony Corallo for help when Marcus was reportedly in serious financial trouble. During the Marcus trial, Herbert Itkin testified to a variety of illegal deals in which he, Corallo, and Marcus were involved during Marcus's term as a Lindsay commissioner; Itkin admitted that he and Marcus had made at least \$120,000 on their illicit activities. The Marcus-Itkin-Motto-Corallo case may have included Jimmy Plumeri acting as the Itkin-Corallo contact. Plumeri's Teamster friend Corallo received 7 1/2 years under two indictments in the scandal. Marcus, who had reportedly contemplated suicide, had decided to go with Itkin to the F.B.I. and confess; the Bureau was, coincidentally, in the middle of a Motto-Corallo investigation, and federal indictments followed immediately. Marcus then hired Edward Bennett Williams (at one time or another the attorney for Frank Costello, Jimmy Hoffa, Bobby Baker, and most recently for an F.B.I. agent charged with some of the Bureau's illegal operations). Williams asked for clemency on Marcus's plea of guilty, and because of Marcus's "repentant and cooperative attitude," he received less than two years, joining Itkin as a witness against Corallo. Itkin, Jimmy Plumeri's alleged Teamster-money courier, was indicted, but never brought to trial.

According to Ralph Salerno, the F.B.I. refused to comment on Herbert Itkin; but Ed Reid reported that the F.B.I. admitted Itkin was "one of its undercover agents." Was Herbert Itkin a fellow conspirator with Corallo, Motto, and Marcus? Was he a federal informer? Or was he both?

Herbert Itkin registered with the Justice Department in 1963 as an agent of the Dominican Republic; he was also registered as a foreign agent for the so-called "Provisional Government of Haiti," a Haitian-exile organization in Puerto Rico; and he purportedly represented a Coral Gables, Florida, organization called Westrade, Inc., a Caribbean export business whose major representative was a Haitian-born Miami businessman, Robert Deschamps. Itkin's Justice Department registration stated he was acting for Westrade in order

...to negotiate on behalf of the Dominican Republic and a bank or brokerage company in the United States, a bond issue of \$35,000,000 to extend over a period of 15 years.

Robert Deschamps denied that Hebert Itkin was commissioned to represent either himself or Westrade in any proposed sale of Dominican Republic bonds. But Deschamps admitted to the *New York Times* that Herbert Itkin spoke of getting Teamsters financing (presumably through Jimmy Plumeri). According to Deschamps, the Itkin-Westrade-Teamsters deal never went through.

Itkin's intelligence work was not confined to the Bureau; according to his own admission, he was both a Bureau and a C.I.A. informant. According to the F.B.I., Itkin had penetrated the Syndicate and reported periodically on its operations. Official sources asserted that Itkin's testimony was crucial in several local, state, and federal actions involving labor racketeering, income-tax charges, gambling, and bribery, among a number of felony investigations. In March, 1970, Jimmy Plumeri was indicted on charges of bribery and kick-backs involving Teamster Pension funds; Plumeri had been charged in three similar indictments between 1968 and 1970 - and an important witness against Plumeri was his alleged friend, Herbert Itkin.

According to crime investigator Ed Reid, Itkin had confided to intimate friends that he had supplied information to the Agency on the operations of certain persons with whom he was associated in the Dominican Republic and Haiti. After the Marcus scandal, Itkin reportedly lived under military guard at a federal installation.

Herbert Itkin's association with reputed Syndicate-Teamsters figures Tony Corallo and Jimmy Plumeri in the 1960s, his business relations involving the Dominican Republic and Haiti, and his triple agency in (1) bribery and kickback operations, (2) F.B.I. informing, and (3) Agency intelligence-gathering, are intriguing in themselves. Certainly Itkin was associated with the intelligence-crime-business coalition interested in exploiting the Caribbean in the 1960s, and, in his relationship with Jimmy Plumeri (if only indirectly), he was in direct contact with a figure important in the anti-Castro plots of the same period. All of his activities and associations suggest he could have been a part of any of several Caribbean enterprises, including the de Mohrenschildt Dallas-Houston group and its Haitian exploitation plan.

What increased my interest in Itkin was a recent report by author Dick Russell on a C.I.A.-associated person who supplied information to the Agency about Haitian activities in the 1960s and who claimed that George de Mohrenschildt had been working for the C.I.A. in 1963 when the Baron was in Haiti. According to Russell, that man's name was Herbert Atkin. Atkin later denied ever telling Russell anything about the Agency and de Mohrenschildt, but Russell maintained that his notes of the interview were quite clear. Are Herbert Itkin and Herbert Atkin the same person?

Whether they are or not, Herbert Itkin had multiple links to the alliance whose two major goals were the fall of Castro and the plundering of the Caribbean, and one of the alliance's key figures in its early plots against Fidel Castro was Itkin's sometime associate, Jimmy Plumeri.

### **The Cuban "Mafia"**

The Central Intelligence Agency plotted with no fewer than eight Syndicate figures from 1959 on in multiple attempts to invade Cuba and assassinate Premier Fidel Castro. All eight organized crime figures had ties to American intelligence, military and civilian, to anti-Castro Cuban agents, and, directly or indirectly, to Jack Leon Ruby. Three of those Syndicate figures were Russell Bufalino, Jimmy Plumeri, and Salvatore Granello.

One account called it "Sally's Stash": \$750,000 skimmed from Syndicate racetrack and casino operations in Havana. It belonged to Bufalino, Plumeri, and Salvatore "Sally Burns" Granello (a one-time associate of Vito Genovese), left behind with Syndicate Cubans when the three Mafia operators were thrown out of Cuba. In 1959 and 1960, they were in exile in Florida, and the first plans to invade Cuba and assassinate Castro were underway. One prerequisite was contemporary intelligence from inside the island. How would Castro's Cubans respond? What was the strength of his troops? Could the terrain support tank attacks? Were planes needed? The C.I.A. had Cuban agents inside of Cuba and still in Agency control (the AMBLOOD and Antonio Veciana groups, for example): some of the answers could have been gotten from these men. But not all, and the information gap was large enough to worry the Agency. C.I.A. contacts in Florida learned that Bufalino, Plumeri, and Granello still maintained relations with their former Cuban employees. While the three held interests in Havana, they had shared the wealth, it was reported, from casino gambling, narcotics, and prostitution.

With Santo Trafficante, they had helped to form a "sub-Mafia" made up of members of the Cuban underworld; when Castro ejected the Syndicate leaders, their Cuban cohorts stayed in place. And that Cuban Syndicate group hated Castro as much as Lansky, the Mannarinos, Trafficante, McWillie, and the Bufalino-Plumeri-Granello group hated the Premier. The Cubans theoretically represented an untapped fund of anti-Castro information and feeling - making them invaluable Agency assets in Cuba.

According to one account, the Agency not only proposed that Bufalino and his two friends establish an espionage network, but that they also plan the most efficient way to kill Fidel Castro. If so, E. Howard Hunt's assassination proposal to his C.I.A. superiors was to be implemented earlier than most sources suggest.

Bufalino and company agreed to the C.I.A. proposal: that they supply information from their covert Syndicate agents still in place in Cuba; in return, the agency promised to help them get back their \$750,000 in skim money. The volume of intelligence was impressive, but a C.I.A. report later characterized all of it as "garbage." If Allan Dulles and Richard Bissell relied on the Bufalino- Plumeri-Granello espionage to plan the Bay of Pigs invasion (as well as the several unsuccessful assassination attempts against Castro), the two intelligence chiefs certainly had one excuse for their 1961 fiasco. The C.I.A. turned to other Syndicate assets - to Robert Maheu, and through Maheu, to Roselli, Giancana, Richard Cain, Charles Nicoletti, and Trafficante.

### **The Masters of Syndicate-Held Cuba**

Following Jim Garrison's New Orleans investigation and the assassinations of Martin Luther King and Senator Robert Kennedy, stirrings were felt in the Syndicate substructure: informers were hinting at revelations.

On October 6th, 1970, Salvatore ("Sally Burns") Granello was discovered in the trunk of a rented car in Manhattan, his head riddled with bullets.

On September 17th, 1971, James (Jimmy Doyle") Plumeri was discovered in his parked car on a Queens street, strangled with a silk necktie.

By 1977, of the eight known Syndicate figures used by the C.I.A. against Castro, six would be murdered: and all their murders would be unsolved. Only Santo Trafficante of the second group and Bufalino of the first remained alive as of

December, 1977. Trafficante had appeared before the House Select Committee on Assassinations in March, 1977, refusing to answer any questions whatsoever on the murder of John F. Kennedy. Russell Bufalino, 73 years old, was convicted of extortion on August 10th, 1977, after an eight-day trial in Federal District Court in Manhattan. A Bufalino associate, Michael Sparber, and a Spring Valley, N.Y., jeweler, Herbert Jacobs, were also convicted of extortion and the threat of violence in an attempt to collect \$25,000 from Jack Napoli who owed Jacobs the money for the alleged purchase of diamond jewelry (in 1969, Bufalino was reported to be a dealer in stolen jewels). Napoli had cooperated with the F.B.I.; taped conversations with Bufalino were material to the N.Y. jury's decision to convict. No record exists of Russell Bufalino having been interrogated by the House Select Committee on Assassinations in 1976 or 1977 as one of the two surviving Syndicate figures with direct connection to organized crime's attempts on Fidel Castro engineered by the Agency. But Bufalino, who was sentenced on October 21st, 1977, by Judge Morris E. Lasker, must have wondered about the old times, when the lights were bright in Batista's Havana; when all his friends, including Johnny Roselli, Sam Giancana, Sally Granello, and Jimmy Plumeri, moved under those brilliant lights, the masters of Syndicate-held Cuba.

And with Santo Trafficante, Bufalino must have wondered whether he would make it through the winter of 1977.



Note: The materials for Chapters 15 and 16 were gathered through August, 1976; they were completed in their present form by September, 1976, when some material was added to the end of Chapter 16. From November, 1976 to September, 1977, new documents, news stories, at least one important book, and House Select Committee on Assassinations activities have added to and modified our picture of the Syndicate-Intelligence conspiracy against Fidel Castro. To avoid a break in the chronology of our historical research, further complicating an already complex line of investigation, these most recent materials have been brought together in Chapters 17 through 21 for the reader's convenience.

## **CHAPTER 15**

### **THE INTELLIGENCE-SYNDICATE CONSPIRACY AGAINST FIDEL CASTRO (I)**

#### **Johnny Roselli Is Missing**

On Sunday, August 18th, 1976, John Roselli, missing since July 28th, the day he was supposed to have left his sister's home in Broward County in order to play golf, was identified as the murder victim discovered by two fishermen who found the body of the Syndicate figure in a chain-wrapped drum afloat in Biscayne Bay off Miami. Dade County officials reported that Roselli had been asphyxiated; Dr. Ronald Wright, chief deputy medical examiner of Dade County, confirmed that there was "a circular wound on the lower abdomen," but did not characterize the wound as a gunshot. Further grisly details were apparently leaked to syndicated columnist Jack Anderson who reported nine days later that Roselli's murderers either shot or stabbed the Syndicate figure in the stomach - autopsy findings suggested the possibility of a bullet having been dug out. Roselli's legs were then chopped off. Roselli, Anderson reported, may have been still alive when he was jammed into the drum.

Calls from Senators Frank Church and Howard Baker for investigation of possible connections between Roselli's death and the earlier murder of Sam Giancana followed; Roselli had testified before Church's Senate Select Committee, while Giancana, also scheduled to testify, was shot to death five days before Roselli's appearance. In Miami, Dade County detectives Julio Ojeda and Charles Trepalek reported they intended to review Roselli's Senate Select Committee testimony for possible leads to his killers. On Tuesday, August 10th, members of Senator Daniel K. Inouye's Senate Intelligence Committee requested a Federal investigation of Roselli's death; on Friday, August 13th, Attorney General Edward H. Levi ordered the F.B.I. to probe the possibility that the Mafia figure was murdered as a consequence of his appearance before the Church Committee. A spokesman for the Senate Intelligence Committee confirmed that Roselli had made a secret appearance in April, 1976, before Senate investigators associated with the Schweiker subcommittee of the Church Committee inquiring into the assassination of John F. Kennedy. Late Friday, August 13th, Robert Havel, Justice Department source, reported that Attorney General Levi had instructed the F.B.I. "to investigate whether the Roselli homicide was the result of his testimony before the committee or to prevent future testimony before a committee of Congress." Though Clarence M. Kelley, F.B.I. Director, had said that there was no Federal jurisdiction in the Roselli murder, Havel reported that Attorney General Levi authorized the Bureau to investigate under a Federal law making it a criminal offense to obstruct proceedings before government agencies and committees of Congress. Commenting on Giancana-Roselli-J.F.K. connections editorially, the *New York Times* argued strongly for a new Congressional probe. The *Times* argument was all-the-more forceful given the history of that respected New York newspaper's extraordinary reluctance to publish anything but criticism of the independent assassination investigators for twelve years - ignoring the voluminous evidence of conspiracy and cover-up developed by those same independent probers. The new editorial stance on the part of the *Times* seemed to signal the Establishment (or at least part of it) was now at last ready for a new J.F.K. inquiry.

On Monday, August 23rd, in a UPI release ostensibly devoted to earlier Senate Committee testimony concerning both pro-Castro and anti-Castro groups engaged in terrorism inside and outside the United States operating in the Miami area, mention was made of the Central Intelligence Agency's use of anti-Castro Cubans in Florida and American gangsters to assassinate Castro. The UPI story reviewed the Roselli murder on Sunday, August 22nd, 1976, then added that a lawyer who represented Roselli informed the F.B.I. in 1967 that Roselli believed Castro agents were implicated in the assassination of President Kennedy.



The UPI story revealed that Roselli's lawyer, unnamed but cited in the Schweiker subcommittee report on the J.F.K. assassination as a "Washington attorney," reported to the F.B.I. in 1967 that Roselli and another (unnamed) client had participated in a "government-approved project aimed at assassinating Castro" in the early '60s, and through that involvement Roselli had gained knowledge of Castro's plans to murder the American president. Fears that the issuance of the Schweiker report would generate new (and renewed) "Castro-did-it" cover stories were therefore realized for the second time in two months.

The evening of August 23rd, Jack Anderson recounted his twice-printed C.I.A.-Mafia anti-Castro hit story on the ABC network's "Good Night, America" show, and despite Anderson's sophistication in the J.F.K. assassination case, he repeated the discredited conclusions of the *Warren Report*, characterizing Lee Harvey Oswald as the "assassin" and as "pro-Castro," lending Anderson's continuing support (whether deliberate or not) to the Castro-did-it chorus - and to the cover-up.

On Wednesday, August 25th, the new Senate Intelligence Committee revealed that Committee member Senator Gary Hart had reported to the committee on Tuesday, August 24th, concerning a trip to Miami where he met with members of Dade County's Public Safety Department on what the department's investigators had uncovered or suspected about John Roselli's murder. Unfortunately, Hart was, earlier in 1976, the member of the two-person Schweiker subcommittee who was most vocal in putting down his own Schweiker-Hart report (for the parent Church Committee), asserting the report's findings had in no way disturbed the *Warren Report's* conclusions, directly contradicting his own chairperson Schweiker. Hopes for a full J.F.K. investigation growing out of Senate examination of Roselli's death were dimmed by the Committee's intention, as UPI saw it, to investigate any link between Agency plots to kill Fidel Castro and a Cuban counterplot to assassinate President Kennedy.

Any gains, therefore, in connecting Roselli's death with J.F.K.'s assassination were offset by the continuing frame within which the connections were being made: that Castro killed Kennedy.

### **Removal Of The President**

Earlier, on Sunday, July 4th, 1976, UPI distributed a story based on an exclusive *New York Daily News* article which reported the *News* had learned a former C.I.A. contract agent told the Senate Intelligence Committee - the Church

committee - that Jack Ruby, murderer of alleged presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald, had conferred with Cuban Premier Fidel Castro on the possibility of assassinating President John F. Kennedy. The Church Committee informant, at first unnamed, was described by the *New York Daily News* as "a contract operative" who had worked for the C.I.A. in Cuba. According to the *News* exclusive, the former "operative" contacted the Senate Intelligence Committee and informed it that Jack Ruby had met with Fidel Castro in the summer of 1963. The anonymous C.I.A. employee maintained Ruby had visited Havana secretly ten weeks before J.F.K. was gunned down in Dealey Plaza, offering Castro guns and other military equipment in exchange for using Cuba as a way-station for narcotics shipments to the United States.

The first version of this "Castro-did-it" story had Ruby meeting with Premier Castro and four other Cuban leaders. The Cubans allegedly told Ruby about C.I.A.-backed assassination attempts on Castro, and that Castro allegedly "was ready to strike back." The *New York Daily News* quoted the alleged C.I.A. source as asserting Ruby was asked whether "he would be willing to kill Kennedy or [whether he] could arrange an assassination."

On July 7th, 1976, UPI reported one-time Ruby lawyer Melvin Belli had commented on the Senate Select Committee's C.I.A.-informant story. According to Belli, "Ruby may have been in Cuba six months before the assassination [in May or June of 1963]...but he never met Castro and would not have joined any scheme to kill Kennedy." "He worshipped Jack Kennedy," Belli said of Jack Ruby. While the unnamed C.I.A. contract operative had charged Ruby with an attempt at a Mafia-Cuba deal involving armaments exchanged for clear passage of Syndicate drug shipments through Castro's Cuba, Belli denied such an intention on the part of his former client Ruby, recalling that Ruby had spoken of a visit to Cuba six months before the assassination of Kennedy. "He started to go over. I don't know if he got there," Belli commented. But, according to the noted attorney, Ruby's mission was gunrunning, not narcotics - and certainly not the murder of the president. According to Belli, the gun deal collapsed, Ruby never seeing the Cuban Premier Castro. Belli reinforced the Hugh Aynesworth profile of Ruby - immature, erratic, emotional: a scrounging bumbler - and attributed the newest charges against Ruby to C.I.A. misinformation.

On July 9th, 1976, the UPI disclosed the source of the newest "Castro-did-it" counterplot and elaborated further on its incredible details. According to this story, on Thursday, July 8th, the UPI interviewed the hitherto-anonymous Senate

Intelligence C.I.A. source by telephone and named him: Frank Fiorini, alias Frank Sturgis, self-proclaimed C.I.A. operative and convicted Watergate burglar. Sturgis now added more revelations. He said he had been "assigned" to investigate possible Cuban-exile involvement in the J.F.K. murder, that he had found no links between Gulf Coast anti-Castro communities and the Kennedy assassination, but that his inquiry had turned up evidence Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack Ruby (with others) were involved in the same assassination conspiracy. Sturgis argued he and other investigators had supplied evidence of such a meeting to a number of government agencies as early as 1964, during Warren Commission hearings into the J.F.K. murder, but that he did not know if the information had been passed on the the Commission. Evidence cited in the Schweiker Report did establish C.I.A. and F.B.I. suppression of information (true or not) on possible Cuban complicity in the assassination, giving circumstantial support to at least that part of Sturgis' newest conspiracy story.

But the alleged mercenary and Watergate burglar now elaborated on the cast of characters involved in the "Executive Action" planning: Sturgis spoke of Fidel and Raul Castro, Che' Guevera, Cuban Intelligence Chief Ramiro Valdez, and a female Argentine Soviet-KGB intelligence operative all meeting with Jack Ruby. Ruby's single meeting six months before the J.F.K. ambush now became several trips to Cuba months before the Dallas shooting, with Ruby attempting to trade illicit drug traffic into the United States for arms. Sturgis' story up-dated the Syndicate's guns-and-drugs history associated with pre-Castro Cuba by involving the Cuban revolutionary leaders, the Soviet KGB, and Syndicate-representative Jack Ruby of Dallas.

With evidence of C.I.A. and organized crime participation in Executive Action hit teams targeted on Fidel Castro, with Senator Schweiker announcing during his subcommittee deliberations that Lee Harvey Oswald had "intelligence" written all over him, Frank Sturgis again became the source of Lee Harvey Oswald conspiracy theories: but Sturgis now involved Oswald, Ruby, the Mafia, the Castro government, and the Russian KGB in his most recent expose.

To recognize Frank Sturgis as an "authority" on the link between organized crime and Cuba - and now as an expert on the connections between Syndicate figures and head-of-state hit teams, we must examined the historic nexus between the mob, American intelligence, and Caribbean and Pacific dictatorships: in particular, the Caribbean Complex, a network that included the rulers of American organized crime, agents of right-wing Central and South American governments,

figures in the Howard Hughes organization, and former and current members of the C.I.A. and F.B.I. cabal of contract and regular operatives and informants. Peter Dale Scott (and others) have elaborated on this intelligence-crime-political network; here, we need some basic reminders.

### **The Syndicate and Cuba**

Meyer Lansky - associated closely with members of the Great Lakes Syndicate which included crime bosses from Chicago, Detroit, and Cleveland - made Miami his base of operations from 1933 on. Miami became neutral Syndicate turf - an "open city" outside of the territorial disputes which frequently erupted within the crime corporation. From there, Lansky moved to Havana under the patronage of Cuban dictator Fulgencio Batista. Eventually, Lansky returned the favor, supporting Batista in his return to power in 1952 after the Cuban tyrant lost control of the key Caribbean island.

Earlier, in the 1940s, Lansky had allied himself with the Trafficante family of Tampa, Florida, and Havana (like Miami) was declared neutral territory by Lucky Luciano in 1947.

Luciano brought with him, despite his exile status, the benevolence of the C.I.A., based upon his alleged war-time cooperation with the OSS and the reported coalition between the American mob, American intelligence, Sicilian Mafioso, and the Allied invasion forces in Italy during World War II. Luciano had also allegedly helped keep East Coast docks free of "subversion," meaning that war-time cargo was moved without the help of legitimate organized labor: the profitable alliance between the Syndicate and corrupt labor was blessed by the government of the United States. Mafia master Luciano had acted as an unofficial ambassador for President Roosevelt, and was credited with getting the approbation of U.S. Naval Intelligence for his patriotic exertions.

Don Luciano also brought with him the fuel which would run the furnace of American covert paramilitary operations in Central and South America, Southeast Asia and the international criminal conspiracy: illegal drugs. If gambling oiled the wheels of the giant and complicated structure, dope was both its raw input and finished product, and Cuba under Batista, Luciano, Lansky and the Trafficantes was allegedly the center of a vast distributing network, mainly of heroin, which would eventually poison thousands of American troops in Indo-China and corrupt the inner cities of America in the 1950s and 1960s - the result of a union between

American crime and American intelligence. Though Luciano was eventually to be sent back to Genoa (through the efforts of the U.S. Narcotics Bureau), he and others - Meyer Lansky, Jake Lansky (Meyer's brother), Sam Mannarino, Sam's brother Gabriel Mannarino, the Trafficantes, and Norman Rothman of Miami - would increase their financial and managerial interests in Havana property. Eventually, the Mannarino brothers, Norman Rothman, and - according to Time magazine - John Roselli operated the Sans Souci in Havana, and the Lansky brothers and Norman Rothman controlled the Havana Tropicana.

In 1955, despite the Mafia pay-offs to Cuban dictator Batista, Syndicate leaders were sending some aid to the mountain-based revolutionaries led by the Castro brothers - including small quantities of weapons. Among those Batista-protected casino operators who tried working both sides of the Cuban street - however modestly in relation to Fidel Castro - was Norman "Roughhouse" Rothman - a key figure in the Lansky-Mannarino-Trafficante crime clan operating out of Cuba.

Aiding the Cuban revolutionaries was a soldier-of-fortune named Frank Fiorini, who in the 1950s was already an American double agent, according to his own admission. Fiorini, later to become Frank Sturgis, has confessed to what government agencies and commissions have denied. For example, the Rockefeller Commission (whose chief counsel was David Belin, former counsel for the Warren Commission), asserted:

Frank Sturgis was not an employee or agent of the CIA either in 1963 or any other time. He has testified under oath himself....

The House Select Committee on Assassinations might wish to test Sturgis' credibility and truthfulness under oath on this statement and others he has made about his alleged C.I.A. associations, including his denials of involvement in actual assassination action.

The man who would find himself in 1958 in Oriente Province aiding the anti-Batista revolutionaries, yet at the same time an agent of American intelligence, was born of Italian parents in Philadelphia. Fiorini signed on with the Marines immediately after his graduation from high school. Quitting in 1945, he became a "soldier of fortune," allegedly working as a motorcycle officer, bartender, and nightclub manager. In 1949, Fiorini enlisted in the Army.

In the early 50s, in his second enlistment in the Army, Fiorini was part of the Berlin airlift and saw military duty in both Mexico and in Latin America. Fiorini left the service in 1953, moved back to Miami, Florida, married a Cuban nightclub performer, and in 1955 ran secret night flights into Cuba for Carlos Prio Socarras in support of Fidel Castro. Fidel Castro had allegedly promised deposed Cuban President Prio a return to his office in exchange for money and guns, and Fiorini was part of the temporary Prio-Castro alliance. By 1957, Fiorini had allegedly become one of the Cuban Premier's favorite "Yanguis" and a close friend of the nationalist leader. In a recent interview, Sturgis said: "The [pro-Castro] July 26th Movement, since 1957 I was in it." By 1958, Sturgis could boast having been arrested by the Secret Police of Fulgencio Batista who suspected him of doing courier work for the rebel Castro. But the American Embassy in Havana intervened on Sturgis' behalf, some researchers have suggested, because it knew his covert mission was penetration of the July 26th Movement of the Castros. Again in 1958, working for Castro, Sturgis associated with Pedro Diaz Lanz, then a Castro pilot flying in and out of Cuba. Sturgis may have been already in contact with Watergate boss E. Howard Hunt in 1958; Sturgis told researcher Michael Canfield: "Howard Hunt was an attache' down in Uruguay. He did this and that, got information, etc. Me, I participated in the action. Skullduggery, et cetera. Back in the fifties." Sturgis' association with Pedro Diaz Lanz paid off. Castro rewarded the Cuban pilot who had smuggled guns to him in the mountains, making Lanz the chief of his revolutionary government's new Cuban Air Force; in turn, Fiorini was appointed "Chief of Security and Intelligence for the Cuban Air Force," a position of great leverage and mobility for a possible double agent.

In early January, 1959, Fidel Castro marched into Havana with his rebel troops, and Frank Fiorini could be given at least some of the credit. Though Meyer Lansky and Fulgencio Batista left Cuba in haste when the revolution triumphed, Jake Lansky stayed behind and was detained by Castro for more than three weeks before Jake followed his brother Meyer into Miami "exile." Both Castro and the mob believed some accommodation of mutual benefit could be reached - the tourist trade was vital to the economic life of Cuba, and the casinos were powerful magnets attracting foreign cash - so the victorious Cuban head of state designated a trusted aide and rebel gunrunner as mediator between the new revolutionary government of Cuba and the Havana hotel and casino operators: Frank Fiorini. Fiorini represented Castro's Minister of Games of Chance in 1959.

Sturgis' early duplicity in association with Pedro Diaz Lanz bears further examination; as Fiorini, he flew to Mexico with Pedro Diaz Lanz, buying guns which were subsequently smuggled into Cuba. After both Sturgis and Lanz had defected, Fiorini claimed he had been an anti-Castro spy all through his days of Castro support. Evidence of Sturgis' double agency during 1959 is abundant: according to his own admission, he "recruited a number of people in Havana for intelligence," probably in an espionage structure reaching throughout Cuba, and "offered his services to the American Embassy in...a plot to kill Castro," an operation confirmed on August 23rd, 1976, in an interview with Sturgis in which he admitted that Pedro Diaz Lanz was at odds with Castro, and that Sturgis plotted the Cuban Air Force Chief's escape to the United States. In the United States, Diaz Lanz testified against the Castro regime before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee; afterward, E. Howard Hunt gave Pedro Diaz Lanz employment with the C.R.F., a C.I.A.-funded and -operated Cuban-exile organization. After Fiorini's own "defection," Pedro Diaz Lanz became Sturgis' co-pilot in a number of anti-Castro leaflet drops on Havana.

### **The Ruby Link**

So 1959 and 1960 were significant years in Sturgis' role as an undercover operative. And 1959 was a banner year, too, for Jack Ruby in Dallas, Texas. All the pieces of his personal puzzle were fitting together - though the answer to who used the jigsaw and who was now putting the puzzle together again might tell us who killed John F. Kennedy. A representative list of individuals who had important effect on Jack Ruby's life reads like a criminal hall of fame; Al Capone and Frank Nitti of Chicago; Paul "Red" Dorfman, Hoffa intimate and Teamsters insurance fund boss; Irwin S. Weiner, Teamsters bondsman; Barney Baker, who Robert Kennedy called a "roving organizer and ambassador of violence for Jimmy Hoffa"; Lenny Patrick and Dave Yaras, reputed Chicago mob killers; Paul Roland Jones, smuggler and reputed murderer; and "Needlenose" Labriola and Jimmy Weinberg, alleged Chicago Syndicate figures and corrupt labor mediators. Ruby's criminal connections were so extensive they commended him to the F.B.I., which in March, 1959, just two months after Castro came to power in Cuba, recruited Ruby as an informant for eight key months. Agent Charles W. Flynn met with Ruby at least eight separate times, a relation between Ruby and the intelligence community suppressed by the F.B.I. for almost twelve years. Recall that the F.B.I.'s World War II and 1950's area of operation included Latin America, and Bureau Director J. Edgar Hoover was a jealous master in his F.B.I. "Seat of Government," as he insisted his Washington Office be called. Ruby's visits to Cuba during this period might not

have gone unnoticed by an agent aware of the Bureau's long-time interest in Latin affairs. Our suspicion that the meetings were more significant than Hoover was willing to admit to Warren Commission Chief J. Lee Rankin is heightened when we recall how long the F.B.I.-Ruby relation was hidden from the American people, and when we realize the extent of the conversations between F.B.I. agent Flynn and Ruby suppressed for almost thirteen years.

Ruby had already cultivated the friendship of key Dallas policemen in the 50s, an intimacy which was capped by a close working relationship with the Special Services Bureau of the Dallas Police Department. The Syndicate massacres of the 20s and 30s were now bloody memories; the national crime corporation had learned it was better to cooperate with intelligence and law enforcement agencies, receiving preferred status and beneficence and, in the process, eliminating the pesky opposition by turning in the competition. Testimony taken during the Warren Commission hearings linked Ruby to the Special Services Bureau of Dallas, yet the Commission chose to ignore that testimony. For example, the Commission heard from Detective Eberhardt of the Dallas SSB who "regarded Jack Ruby as a source of information in connection with his [SSB] investigatory activities...." Ruby's close relations to the Dallas SSB fitted him well for a double agent's role.

In 1959, Jack Ruby was sedulously working with the Dallas Police Department's Special Services Bureau, informing for the F.B.I., operating as an important figure in the Gulf Coast branch of the Syndicate, involved in police pay-offs, smuggling, prostitution, gambling, narcotics, numbers, and gunrunning - and in close touch with Lewis J. McWillie, Havana Tropicana casino manager and Syndicate gambling operator for Meyer Lansky and Norman Rothman. And McWillie's Havana associates hoped to continue their profitable relationship through Frank Fiorini, Castro's representative from his Ministry of Games of Change. Fiorini/Sturgis may have been the C.I.A. Syndicate contact man from the beginning of the anti-Castro conspiracy. Concurrently, Sturgis' connection to C.I.A.-agent and Watergate-burglary mastermind E. Howard Hunt may have begun much earlier than either Sturgis or Hunt are now willing to admit. Sturgis's own testimony suggests this speculation:

Sturgis...[testified before the Rockefeller Commission in 1975] that he had often heard of "Eduardo" [E. Howard Hunt], a CIA political officer who had been active in the work of the Cuban Revolutionary Council in Miami prior to the Bay of Pigs operation in April 1961....

Sturgis had also been active in anti-Castro groups in the Miami area before...Hunt's assignment on the political aspects of the Bay of Pigs project in 1960 and 1961.



Elaine Mynier, who was Louis J. McWillie's former girl friend, said she served as a Ruby-to-McWillie courier when she visited Cuba in May, 1959. Frank Sturgis was still functioning as Castro's contact with the Syndicate's Havana casino people, including Louis J. McWillie. Mynier said she memorized the communication from Ruby to McWillie, writing it down only after clearing Customs.

Sturgis admitted in a crucial interview with author Canfield: "[I knew] McWillie - yeah...[and] I knew Santo Trafficante... the Lansky brothers...Mike McLaney. I was in charge of all the gambling casinos for the Cuban government."

Jack Ruby met with Louis J. McWillie - and most probably with the Lanskys (Ruby seems to have called them "the Fox brothers"). Neighboring the Lanskys' Tropicana was the Sans Souci, where the Trafficantes and the Mannarinos operated (and, according to *Time*, John Roselli), and where Norman Rothman was the manager. Ruby could have met Rothman either at the Sans Souci or at the Tropicana - or McWillie could have spoken for the Lanskys, Trafficante, the Mannarinos, for Roselli, or for Norman Rothman alone. That Ruby conferred with someone in addition to McWillie is now supported by a recently-released C.I.A. memo dated November 28th, 1963, based on a British journalist's experience in a Cuban jail in 1959, where he met a "gangster-gambler named Santos...who was visited frequently by an American gangster type named Ruby." Though the C.I.A. discounted the journalist's story - to give it credence would have lent C.I.A. support to a conspiracy theory involving Ruby and the Havana Syndicate group - Santo Trafficante was imprisoned in Cuba in 1959 - and Ruby did visit Cuba at least twice in 1959, when the Crime-C.I.A. hit plan was being hatched. But through McWillie alone, with his Lansky connection, or through Norman Rothman, who linked the casino operators of both the Tropicana and the Sans Souci, Jack Ruby could have been approached.

Norman Rothman is a crucial connection to Frank Sturgis and Fidel Castro on the one hand, and to the Lanskys, the Mannarinos, the Trafficantes, John Roselli, Louis J. McWillie, and Jack Ruby on the other hand. Frank Sturgis' stories in the *Daily News* served artlessly to expose certain elements of this crime-intelligence complex directed against Castro while, at the same time, as "news" accounts, they deprecated the seriousness of the planned "Executive Action" union. As early as 1973, one researcher called attention to these important Ruby-Sturgis-Rothman links, but the American media bought the sensational and fraudulent Castro-did-it yarns rather than follow legitimate leads.



The Rockefeller Commission's conclusion, that Sturgis had been active in the same anti-Castro circles as had E. Howard Hunt "before...1960," can only mean at least 1959, when Fiorini/Sturgis was ostensibly assisting Fidel Castro.

### **Ilona Marita Lorenz**

Among Frank Sturgis' stories is an anti-Castro hit plot allegedly involving seduction, the C.I.A., the F.B.I., and a fellow soldier-of-fortune. According to Sturgis, then sixteen-year-old Ilona Marita Lorenz (who says her name was incorrectly reported as "Marie"), a German-American, cruised with her father, the captain of the liner Berlin, into Havana Harbor, where Fidel Castro came aboard (possibly at Sturgis' suggestion), and dined with the Captain and Ms. Lorenz in February, 1959 (Sturgis gave this corrected date himself in an interview on August 17th, 1976). The Sturgis story had Castro prevailing on the nubile Ilona Marita to return to Havana to become Castro's "personal interpreter," installed in the Premier's suite in the Havana Hilton. Here the story took on hints of passionate bondage, with Lorenz an under-age love slave. Fiorini contacted the young German-American lover of Castro and made her (according to Fiorini) the clandestine agent of an F.B.I.-C.I.A. plan to photograph secret papers and steal personal documents of the revolutionary leader. After eleven months of love with Castro and intrigue with Fiorini/Sturgis, Lorenz left Cuba (with Sturgis' help), ostensibly for medical treatment in New York.

In America, as their story goes, Frank Fiorini and Ilona Marita Lorenz reported they met with Alexander Rorke, rich soldier-of-fortune and an alleged C.I.A. contract employee. Sturgis admitted that Rorke recruited Lorenz, the seventeen-year-old ex-lover of Castro, for "several CIA-funded operations." According to Sturgis, Rorke finally took her to a Miami F.B.I. office in 1960, where adventurer Rorke said to Lorenz: "You could knock him off. It would save everybody a lot of trouble." Sturgis reported that one of the C.I.A. agents present allegedly added: "It would change history; you're the only one who can do it." So, equipped with poison tablets supplied to her by Frank Sturgis hidden in her jar of cold cream, Lorenz returned to Havana - an alleged assassination agent for the F.B.I. and the C.I.A., according to Sturgis' confirmation of the Lorenz story. But, says Sturgis, the capsules melted - and the murder attempt, of course, failed.

This Sturgis story surfaced in mid-June, 1976, when it was leaked by an "investigator" (Sturgis again?) for the Senate Intelligence Committee to the *New York Daily News* which was given a "tip" that Lorenz resided in New York City. Cooperatively, Ms. Lorenz gave the *News* the lust-intelligence-murder story, and

Frank Sturgis supported and amplified the story for the *Daily News*.

### **Mercenaries and Mercenary Stories**

That Sturgis was the center of an adventurer-assassin-journalist cabal is further documented by recalling the Buchanan brothers' stories out of Miami just after the assassination of John F. Kennedy which falsely linked Lee Harvey Oswald with Castro's Cuban Intelligence - and by recalling the Buchanan brothers' sources: the International Anti-Communist Brigade, to which the Buchanans belonged, and the Brigade's leader, Frank Fiorini/Sturgis, the leader of an anti-Castro organization financed (according to a knowledgeable source) by former friends of Batista, gambling casino and hotel overlords with ties to Lucky Luciano, the Trafficantes, and the Lansky brothers. This same group of adventuring mercenaries and story-tellers associated with Frank Sturgis and Manuel Artime disseminated interdependent but fraudulent reports on Oswald and his alleged Cuban intelligence connections, all of them later disproved. In a letter dated December 21st, 1963, J. Edgar Hoover wrote the Director of the Bureau of Intelligence and Research, Department of State (with copies to the Secret Service and the C.I.A.) that

On December 5, 1963, our Dallas, Texas, Office learned that the Secret Service had intercepted a letter postmarked November 28, 1963, at Havana, Cuba, addressed to Oswald.... This letter, which was dated November 10, 1963, was signed by Pedro Charles (Peter) and was written in such a manner as to indicate that Oswald had been paid by Charles to carry out an unidentified mission which involved accurate shooting.

This Bureau is also in receipt of a letter ...addressed to "Mr. Robert Kennedy...." and written by one Mario del Rosario Molina of Havana. This letter was dated November 27, 1963, and alleged that Lee Harvey Oswald assassinated President Kennedy at the direction of Pedro Charles, a Cuban agent.... According to the writer, Oswald met with Charles in Miami, Florida several months ago and was paid \$7,000 by Charles.

An examination of both of the above-described letters has shown they were prepared on the same typewriter.

At the same time the letters were being received, James Buchanan, friend of Frank Sturgis and member of Sturgis' International Anti-Communist Brigade, was publishing stories in Miami (attributing them to Frank Fiorini) that Oswald had visited Miami and had contacted Castro's intelligence agents. Later, Jerry Buchanan, James' brother, alleged that Oswald had been in Miami in March 1962. Unfortunately for Sturgis and the Buchanans, the detailed F.B.I. chronology of Oswald's activities precluded such Miami visits; but that fact neither stopped the rumors and stories then nor stopped them from being told again with the upsurge in Castro-did-it theories. These items of "information" may have been a deliberately-crude conspiracy to mislead, a way of dismissing Cuban involvement in 1964 so that the investigators, the Warren Commission staff, and finally the Warren Commission might more easily discount or overlook the second and third layers of Cuban involvement - pointing away from Castro. The use of the same typewriter suggests deliberate crudity in the "Pedro Charles"-Robert Kennedy pair of letters: were the Pedro Charles-Buchanan-Sturgis stories intended to make a flurry and then be exposed as fakes?

After the 1962 Cuban crisis, the Kennedy brothers began their own counterattack on the C.I.A.-Syndicate-Cuban exile adventurers, countermoves that included the cooperative arrest by the British of Jerry Buchanan aboard a C.I.A.-mission boat owned by - Alexander Rorke.

Alexander Rorke was a more ominous figure than the Lorenz-Sturgis *Daily News* story implied; as one researcher pointed out, we might have learned much more from him concerning "CIA-funded operations" had some Congressional investigating committee inquired seriously into E. Howard Hunt's and Frank Sturgis' Cuban machinations in the 1958-1963 period - which in September, 1963, for example, provoked a government warning directed at Frank Sturgis and, Peter Dale Scott suggested, brought death to Sturgis' friend, Alexander Rorke. Rorke has been implicated in anti-Castro plots by Andrew St. George, a one-time American intelligence operative who wrote about assassination plots, and by Rorke's own lawyer, Hans Tanner, in turn himself an admitted hired assassin - and author. Andrew St. George omitted the Syndicate's reported role, admitted the plot was one of several, and indicated that Alexander Rorke, Sturgis' friend and co-plotter, was an important figure in the murder attempt. Andrew St. George stated that Rorke died in a plane crash on an assassination mission in September, 1963, while Rorke's lawyer, who handled the mercenary's legal troubles earlier that same year, published his own version of an assassination attempt in which he admitted involvement, allowing us some glimpses of Sturgis and his International

Anti-Communist Brigade we could not have gotten otherwise. Again, we find links between assassins, mercenaries, and writers who sell stories about soldiers- of-fortune and hitmen.

Frank Sturgis' friendly relations with the *New York Daily News* didn't begin or end with the racy Castro- Lorenz- Rorke episode. Earlier, on April 23rd, 1975, Sturgis also confessed to more hit attempts against Castro involving the Syndicate. This 1975 *Daily News*-Sturgis story told of an associate of Meyer Lansky approaching Sturgis and dropping the suggestion a Castro murder would be worth one million dollars to the Syndicate. An earlier news account reported that Meyer Lansky had convened the Syndicate high command and gotten an agreement to offer a million-dollar contract for Castro's death - in 1959. Soon afterward, the Syndicate allegedly approached Frank Sturgis, proposing he assassinate his friend Castro. On a second occasion, with Sturgis and Castro seemingly on good terms, and with Sturgis already operating, he maintained, as a C.I.A. employee, a representative of the Havana casino group approached Sturgis when Fidel Castro visited New York, offering Sturgis \$100,000 to kill the Cuban leader. At least one unsuccessful attempt to murder Castro was planned in 1960. When the Cuban Premier visited the United Nations in September, 1960, staying at the Shelburne Hotel in New York, C.I.A. operatives allegedly approached "high-ranking New York City police" with a plot to kill Castro: a box of cigars, booby-trapped with explosives, was supposed to be placed in Castro's room. But, the police were reported to have said, the Agency called off the hit. Or the bomb failed to go off as scheduled.

### **Ruby, McWillie, And Others**

Sturgis had said no, or alleged he said no, to the two Syndicate offers, but he reported both organized-crime recruitment attempts to his C.I.A. contact in Havana. According to one source, at least one of the Sturgis contacts from organized crime was made by Norman Rothman, the Havana business associate of Meyer Lansky and Ruby's friend Louis J. McWillie. Rothman, Lansky, and McWillie were all from the Tropicana, the same hotel and casino that Jack Ruby visited at least twice for eight days in August, 1959, and the Labor Day weekend in 1959, the year Ruby operated as night club owner and manager, Dallas Police Department Special Services Bureau contact, probable Syndicate crime fingerman, and F.B.I. informant. Could Jack Ruby have been visiting Cuba in 1959 on a job for Meyer Lansky? Warren Commission counsel Hubert and Griffen, in important Warren Commission internal memoranda, found credible evidence Ruby visited Cuba a number of times before 1959, when Meyer Lansky reportedly controlled the flow of massive amounts of Syndicate gambling money and narcotics. Predictably, the Warren Commission ignored this obviously-important lead. According to researchers Canfield and Weberman,

## **CHAPTER 16**

### **THE INTELLIGENCE-SYNDICATE CONSPIRACY AGAINST FIDEL CASTRO (II)**

#### **Maheu and His C.I.A.-Syndicate Associates**

By 1976, a possible scenario leading from the alliance of the mob, American intelligence, the mercenaries, and anti-Castro Cuban exiles to the crossfire in Dealey Plaza which murdered John F. Kennedy could at least be sketched out.

In 1959 and 1960, Frank Sturgis (intelligence operator and double agent) and Norman Rothman (Miami/Havana Syndicate boss of the Tropicana and the Sans Souci) apparently had consulted together on the assassination of Fidel Castro (which would be followed by a Cuban invasion and an agent-provoked internal uprising). Norman Rothman met with the Trafficantes, the Mannarinos - and John Roselli of Los Angeles and Las Vegas - to get further Syndicate approval for the Castro murder attempt. Robert Sam Anson, in a telephone interview with a "source close to the FBI" on June 7th, 1975, discovered one of the several contact men in this intelligence- crime conspiracy to be a lawyer, a former F.B.I. agent, who had several Syndicate figures as clients. This attorney's 1967 "Castro- did- it" story was aired on Monday, August 23rd, 1976, following exposure of extensive Cuban exile violence in the Dade County-Miami area, violence that included Cuban participation in plotting against Castro by the C.I.A.- organized crime combination. And this same unnamed attorney showed up as the lawyer who contacted Drew Pearson for his two "clients" with their "Castro- did- it" cover story. Whoever was Robert Sam Anson's "source close to the FBI" - probably a Justice Department official - that source seems to have placed the "Washington attorney" directly within the intelligence-organized crime plot to kill Fidel Castro.

Near the end of the Eisenhower administration, C.I.A. clandestine operations chief Richard M. Bissell commissioned Colonel Sheffield Edwards, Director of the Agency's Office of Security, to contact Washington, D.C., business consultant and public relations man Robert A. Maheu. In the 50s, Robert A. Maheu ran a private detective and so-called "problem-solving agency" in Washington named Robert A. Maheu Associates. No later than 1955, Maheu was an employee of Howard Hughes, handling Hughes' political and federal-level matters. Between 1954 and 1960, former F.B.I. man Robert Maheu was also a C.I.A. employee.

Robert Maheu testified before Church's Senate Select Committee in 1975 that Maheu knew John Roselli in 1959 - in Las Vegas, where Roselli was reportedly representing Chicago Syndicate interests. Maheu was ostensibly operating his Washington, D.C. private-investigative agency (though it has also been characterized as "Miami-based") as a former F.B.I. agent - but he was also a paid C.I.A. operator - like Guy Banister of New Orleans - under whom Robert Maheu worked when both were F.B.I. agents in Chicago. Maheu, in fact, received \$500 a month from the C.I.A. as a "retainer."

According to the *New York Times*, John Roselli subsequently showed up in the Washington area attending Robert Maheu's social parties at the C.I.A. agent's Virginia home, where the Syndicate-Mafia man met with Maheu and other (still unnamed) C.I.A. agents and operatives. In 1960, according to Maheu's Church Committee testimony, C.I.A. official James O'Connell (Maheu's "project officer") asked Maheu to recruit Roselli - in Los Angeles - for a Castro assassination plot coupled with an American- sponsored invasion of Cuba. Since Maheu met with Roselli no later than 1959, the ex-F.B.I. agent may have given the incorrect year for this O'Connell recruitment directive. Still, Maheu was in contact with John Roselli and James O'Connell in 1959 and 1960; by the latter year, according to Maheu's own testimony, all three were part of a conspiracy to kill Fidel Castro.

Assassinations attempts against Castro can therefore be traced to the Lansky-Trafficante-Norman Rothman casino group (including Louis J. McWillie, Jack Ruby's friend), to Frank Sturgis, and to Robert Maheu, John Roselli, and James O'Connell.

The Schwieker Report's "Chronology" refers to a meeting in late September of 1960, "between Roselli, Maheu and [the] CIA Support Chief [not yet identified in any public source]." An undated subsequent meeting took place, according to the report, in Florida. As Norman Rothman was crucial as a link between (1) the casino



groups and Frank Sturgis on the one hand and (2) McWillie and Ruby on the other, John Roselli was a crucial link between (1) the Havana/Miami Syndicate axis on the one hand and (2) the C.I.A. group (Maheu, O'Connell, Edwards) on the other. And of course, Frank Sturgis, a covert double agent apparently working for Fidel Castro but actually working for American intelligence, was in touch with all the groups, directly or indirectly.

The Schweiker Report's "Chronology" for 1960 gives only one other item for September, 1960, but it is vital: "Bissell and Edwards brief [C.I.A. Director Allen] Dulles and [C.I.A. Deputy Director Charles] Cabell about operations against Castro [presumably including assassination attempts, following Bissell's Church Committee testimony]." Sheffield Edwards has been named as "the C.I.A. official who directed the early phase of the agency's assassination plots with the Mafia." Edwards has further been identified as the C.I.A. contact who allegedly briefed Attorney General Robert Kennedy in May, 1962, on C.I.A. Castro-hit plans. Jack Anderson (in January, 1971) included both the C.I.A.'s James "Big Jim" O'Connell and William K. Harvey in the early planning stages; according to Anderson (whose source was Harvey himself), the two Agency operatives used phony names and accompanied Johnny Roselli to Miami: their mission - organize a group of assassination teams.

Roselli, testifying before the Church Senate Select Intelligence Committee in June, 1975, described how he and Chicago Syndicate boss Salvatore Giancana were recruited by the C.I.A. for assassination attempts against Castro. But Roselli not only named himself and Giancana; he also allegedly implicated Santo Trafficante, reputed Syndicate boss of Tampa, Florida, in the agency-crime hits against the Cuban Premier. Trafficante, it will be recalled, seems to have been identified in a recently-declassified C.I.A. memo as having been visited by Jack Ruby in 1959 in a Castro jail. Five days prior to Roselli's testimony, Sam Giancana had been murdered in his Oak Park, Illinois home, shortly before he himself was due to testify before the Senate Committee.

Robert Maheu, ex-F.B.I. operative, private investigator, Hughes agent, and C.I.A. employee, testified before the Church Senate Committee and admitted recruiting Roselli - who in turn recommended Giancana. Roselli, Giancana, and Maheu travelled to Miami Beach in the latter part of the summer of 1960 to plan the Castro hit. The three conspirators stayed at the Fontainebleau Hotel for a number of months. It is logical to assume that Roselli -- and the others -- contacted and ultimately included Santo Trafficante of Tampa (as Roselli, in fact, admitted) in

their assassination conferences. If a Roselli-Trafficante meeting did not occur in 1960, one certainly occurred in March, 1961. With Roselli, Giancana, and Maheu meeting in Miami Beach in the late summer of 1960 (and early fall), the Schweiker Report's "Chronology" and Jack Anderson's information would place William Harvey, Jim O'Connell, Robert Maheu, John Roselli, Sam Giancana, and Santo Trafficante in the Miami area in September, 1960, plotting the murder of Premier Fidel Castro. It would be instructive to get the exact date in 1960 of the alleged Sturgis- Lorenz- Rorke meeting with unnamed "C.I.A. agents" at an F.B.I. office in the Miami area. Were the C.I.A.-Syndicate and Sturgis groups one and the same?

Time reported that Sam Giancana supplemented the C.I.A.'s \$100,000 with \$90,000 more from the Syndicate, and with this fund Giancana's Chicago delegate, ex-policeman Richard Cain, recruited "Spanish-speaking toughs" (in Miami) to participate in the anti-Castro operation. Roselli then acted as paymaster, paying for everything with the combined Syndicate-C.I.A. fund, including the purchase of several high-priced boats. Cuban exile groups, known to have been funded or controlled by the C.I.A., provided cover for the operation. But whether Giancana or Roselli or the C.I.A. was the final source of the financing of the assassination conspiracy is not particularly important. Giancana and Roselli spoke for Meyer Lansky and the hierarchy of the Syndicate, and had admitted being recruited by the C.I.A., and Meyer Lansky had already put a price on Castro's head.

### **Jack Anderson's Friends**

In one direction, the trail leads from John Roselli to Giancana and Trafficante, and to Rothman, McWillie, and Jack Ruby. In the other direction, the trail leads from John Roselli to Robert Maheu and from Maheu to a whole cast of important C.I.A. characters: Edwards, O'Connell, Harvey, Cabell, Bissell, Dulles. And we must not forget the ex-F.B.I. agent/"Washington attorney" whom Robert Sam Anson's source identified as a contact man in this complexity. A number of candidates for the "key" contact man in this crime-agency Executive Action conspiracy are available, including (1) the "Washington lawyer" of the Schweiker Report, (2) Norman Rothman, (3) Frank Sturgis, (4) Robert Maheu, (5) Sheffield Edwards, and (6) William Harvey; possibly all of them were "key" contact figures for various phases of (and groups involved in) the Castro murder plans. In 1971, Jack Anderson's candidate for the crucial contact man was Robert Maheu, though Maheu's name has been conspicuously absent from Anderson's 1976 stories on the Castro-assassination attempts.

This same Jack Anderson in March, 1967, apparently helped to deflect growing national concern over possible American intelligence-agency complicity either in J.F.K.'s murder or in the subsequent Agency cover-up by detailing six alleged C.I.A.-Mafia assassination attempts against Fidel Castro from 1961 through January, 1963. It was Jack Anderson in 1967 who pushed the "Castro-did-it" scenario when informed sources reported that Jim Garrison was coming close to part of the truth in his New Orleans J.F.K. investigation. "Could the plot against Castro have backfired against President Kennedy?" mused Jack Anderson. Anderson also speculated that the Agency-organized crime attempts must have been known to and approved by Robert Kennedy. Robert Kennedy was angered by Anderson's meanderings - Bobby admitted finding out about the anti-Castro plotting - but when he did find out, he said bluntly, "I turned it off." Or at least he thought he did.

Jack Anderson has, in fact, "broken" this same C.I.A.- "Mafia" hit story twice: in 1967 and again in 1971, though more guardedly and with fewer details in its first telling. The first "break" raised dust during the crucial Garrison investigation; the second "break" caused a "flurry" inside President Nixon's White House - and led the Watergate Committee investigators to suspect a significant story had been buried - still alive - by Nixon cohorts such as Jack Caulfield and John Dean. Anderson's columns implicating John Roselli and Robert Maheu in anti-Castro assassination plans appeared on January 18th and 19th, 1971. Former New York police officer John Caulfield wrote at least one memo to White House Counsel John Dean on February 1st, 1971, less than two weeks after the columns appeared nationally. Caulfield, a White House staff member, wrote: "Maheu's covert activities...with CIA...are only generally known here [that is, in Congressional Washington]..."; and Caulfield cautioned that "Maheu's controversial activities...might well shake loose Republican skeletons from the closet." White House staffer Caulfield admitted to the Watergate investigators probing this fascinating lead that his memo to John Dean in fact referred to "the subject matter of the Jack Anderson column." And that subject-matter was Maheu- C.I.A.- Roselli-Syndicate collusion in Castro murder plans. California researcher Paul Hoch felt it a reasonable assumption the original Anderson break (in March, 1967) was based on inside information from the Agency. Anderson pointed to unnamed "top officials" as his sources; additionally, Paul Hoch cited a "moderately reliable source" of his own whose information suggested that Anderson felt he had received the approval of the C.I.A.'s Director.

And it is the same Jack Anderson who was cited recently as "a member of the board of directors, the bank's official spokesman, and chairman of the executive committee" of the Diplomat National Bank in Washington, D.C. - a bank with reported ties to the South Korean Sun Moon Unification Church movement and to the South Korean Central Intelligence Agency - itself organized by, supported by, and in intimate exchange relations with the American Central Intelligence Agency.

Anderson has since reported he has severed his relations with the bank, and he has written extensively on the South Korean bribery scandal in Washington involving reported K.C.I.A. agents. Who has been one of Jack Anderson's key sources, named and unnamed, for revelations about anti-Castro plots? Who else would have the knowledge - of Cuba, of Castro, of the Syndicate, of the C.I.A., of assassination plotting - but Frank Sturgis? In fact, Sturgis has been a major Anderson source of information - and misinformation. And Jack Anderson seems to have been one of Frank Sturgis' crucial outlets for disseminating cover stories about assassination attempts against Fidel Castro - and against John F. Kennedy.

Allegedly under threat of Justice Department prosecution (in 1967), Mafia leader John Roselli and ex-F.B.I./C.I.A./Howard Hughes operative Robert Maheu admitted part of their involvement in earlier Agency-Syndicate murder escapades, transmitting their story through their unnamed "Washington lawyer" who (according to the Schweiker Report) in turn took their admission to columnist Drew Pearson. Pearson then reported the Maheu-Roselli story to Chief Justice Earl Warren. The story ultimately reached the F.B.I. - and President Johnson. But like Frank Sturgis, Roselli and Maheu apparently developed a cover story that included assassination-bent "individuals who came to the United States for this purpose [-the murder of Kennedy-;]...two such individuals were now [in 1967] in the State of New Jersey." The "Washington lawyer," unidentified in the Schweiker Report but named shortly after the issuing of the Report as attorney Edward P. Morgan of the firm of Welch, Morgan, and Kleindeinst, had been interviewed in 1967 by the F.B.I. concerning this disturbing Maheu-Roselli charge, and the Bureau reported in an internal (so-called) "blind" memo that the attorney's clients, also nameless in the Schweiker Report but later identified as John Roselli and Robert Maheu, could finger "Fidel Castro's counterassassins in this country [the U.S.] who could very well be considered suspects in such a [J.F.K.-murder] conspiracy." Not Robert Maheu, not John Roselli, certainly not Frank Sturgis, but unnamed "counterassassins," "suspects," and "teams of individuals." According to a later report based on the same Morgan-Maheu-Roselli source, Castro used "teams of individuals who were dispatched to the United States for the purpose of assassinating President Kennedy." Without evidence, the Castro argument was back again, presented by three men implicated in anti-Castro hits.

**Drew Pearson and CD 990**

Another journalist (associated with Jack Anderson) has been established in a recently released C.I.A. document as a one-time C.I.A. contact: Drew Pearson. Pearson was earlier listed as a newsperson friendly enough to the C.I.A. to submit to voluntary intelligence debriefing after trips seemingly dedicated to news-gathering. Pearson helped disseminate the Morgan- Roselli- Maheu story in 1967. Three years before, Pearson interviewed Soviet Premier Khrushchev on the Russian leader's response to the Kennedy murder, ostensibly for publication, but Pearson turned in the so-called "interview" to the C.I.A., where the report was suppressed - and listed as classified CD 990 - for twelve years. Now the "interview" is innocuous, but even in 1964 it would have not been of much intelligence value, though it did have newsworthiness. Why, then, classify it, withholding it until 1976? It makes much more sense to see the Pearson-Khrushchev conversation, if released, as the first piece documenting a special relationship between Pearson and an American intelligence service, the disclosure of which could have led to Morgan, and Maheu, and Roselli - and the whole Cuban connection. Other documents still classified in the Kennedy assassination case might have similar value: seemingly insignificant in themselves, but, taken together, clues to the unravelling of embarrassing relations (and power conflicts) both within and without the government. A number of loose ends, aborted inquiries, and secondary cover-ups in the Kennedy assassination investigation seem to bear upon potentially-embarrassing media-intelligence relations.

Pearson acted again in behalf of the Agency, or at least in behalf of one of its important agents, Robert Maheu, in 1967, by conferring with the Schweiker Report's "Washington lawyer," Edward P. Morgan, on the Roselli-Maheu cover story, then taking the scheme to Chief Justice Earl Warren, former head of the Commission. If Drew Pearson hoped Warren would help sit on the story or at least help mitigate its consequences, he must have been disappointed. Warren insisted the assassination story be given to Federal authorities. Pearson seems to have negotiated a compromise with Earl Warren: the account would be taken to the Secret Service rather than the Bureau. But the Secret Service reported it to the F.B.I., and the Schweiker Report detailed the curious lapses and non-investigations of the F.B.I. in 1967 as the Bureau failed to follow-up this obvious new lead in the murder of the president. So Roselli, Maheu and Morgan were off the hook in 1967.

In a curious and still-to-be-explored allied area, the reported indictment of a group of F.B.I. agents for so-called "black bag" burglaries and buggings over the past several decades, ex-F.B.I. agent and Roselli-Maheu attorney Edward P. Morgan showed up as the lawyer for a group of accused Bureau agents in 1976, and suggested at one point in a pre-trial comment that the F.B.I. men were only doing their duty, the ultimate responsibility being that of the Attorney General in charge when they performed their illegal break-ins in the name of Federal law. The presiding Justice Department chief at the time was Attorney General Kleindeinst, of Watergate fame - and F.B.I.- attorney Edward P. Morgan's own law partner at Welch, Morgan, and Kleindeinst.

### **The Roselli Run**

But though attorney Morgan sought to dissociate his clients from the J.F.K. murder in their 1967 Justice Department problems and to minimize their involvement in the '60s anti-Castro hits, evidence shows that the Sturgis-Rothman-Trafficante-Mannarino-Maheu-Roselli conferences came to a positive conclusion in March, 1961. John Roselli flew to Miami to hold at least two key meetings: one with reported Mafia chief Santo Trafficante of Tampa and Havana, and the other with C.I.A. agents. The plot was set: the Syndicate had agreed to give John Roselli money, arms, and mobility in the hit pointed at Castro. In March, 1961, either Jim O'Connell or William Harvey (or both) supplied John Roselli with the first set of poison pills he would pass on to Cuban dissidents. Because Jack Anderson's versions of the Roselli murder attempts seem to be based on confidential information from both William Harvey (C.I.A.) and John Roselli (Mafia), the Anderson story should be given careful consideration. According to Anderson, the poison would be effective, leaving no trace: death by "natural causes." On March 13, 1961, Johnny Roselli contacted a Cuban who was allegedly related to a Castro chef: the poison would be planted in Castro's food (*this date may be deliberately "late"*: evidence for a plan to poison Castro as early as the fall of 1960 now is available). A report from Havana, weeks later, revealed that Castro had fallen ill. Castro recovered, however, in time to lead the Cuban defense against the Bay of Pigs invasion, April 17th, 1961. Roselli then used triple-strength poison pills, but the plot again failed. According to Anderson, attempts again Castro were made four more times: "assassination teams" with "high-powered rifles" and other equipment were used. Roselli was alleged to have brought the teams in personally in twin powerboats. The last so-called "attempt" is suspect, not only because of its date, but also because it lacks any separate confirming evidence. According to Anderson, the "last team" reached a roof-top, with Castro able to be hit by snipers'

rifles, but the would-be assassins were captured. Anderson dated this terminal attempt near the end of February or the first of March, 1963. It is this last - and probably non-existent - Maheu-Roselli hit squad that Anderson said was assembled by Santo Trafficante (at least according to John Roselli's confession to Anderson) which was involved eight months later in the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

The Schweiker Report chronology supplies these items for 1961, 1962, and 1963:

1961

*April* - Roselli passes poison pills to a Cuban in Miami.

1962

*April* - Harvey establishes contact with Roselli.

*Late April* - Harvey passes [second set of] poison pills to Roselli in Miami.

*September 7* - Roselli tells Harvey the pills are still in Cuba.

1963

*Early 1963* - William Harvey tells underworld figures the CIA is no longer interested in assassinating Castro.

This chronology is, of course, incomplete. Some of the important items left out, for example, are: the F.B.I. prosecution of Robert Maheu, Giancana, and Roselli on wire-tapping charges in the late summer of 1960, the 1962 intervention of the C.I.A. in that prosecution on the side of Giancana-Roselli-Maheu, and the report that the C.I.A. became "fed up" with Maheu and Giancana, dropping them from the assassination team in 1962 but retaining John Roselli for "phase two" of the assassination attempts. Fourteen years later, on August 18th, 1976, John Roselli, who could have told us about the plots to assassinate Fidel Castro and, according to his admissions to Federal authorities and to Jack Anderson, who could have supplied information as to who might have murdered John F. Kennedy, was found murdered. While he was still missing, a spokesperson for the Senate Select Committee admitted that John Roselli had indeed been one of the unnamed secret witnesses cited in the Schweiker Report, and that Roselli had appeared before the Senate Subcommittee in April, 1976, testifying about the John F. Kennedy murder.

Three months after that secret testimony, Roselli was dead.

### **Was Ruby Involved?**

Before his suspected involvement in the Kennedy assassination in Dealey Plaza on November 22nd, 1963, what was Jack Ruby's role beyond his possibly-conspiratorial visits to McWillie, the Lanskys, and Trafficante in Cuba? Canfield and Weberman have suggested that Ruby and his associate McWillie might have been working together as part of the C.I.A.-Syndicate conspiracy against Castro. They further suggested that Ruby himself hinted at this arrangement in his testimony to the Commission. McWillie was supposed to have contacted Ruby, requesting he purchase four "Cobra" pistols and mail them to McWillie's Vegas address. Though the gun dealer whom Ruby contacted had previously dealt with McWillie, according to Ruby the gun seller, Ray Brantley, felt "...it would be illegal to send guns out of the country." The researchers point to Ruby's obvious - and possibly highly significant - slip: "Why does Ruby say 'country' when he previously testified that the guns were going to Las Vegas?" When the F.B.I. interrogated McWillie about the pistols, McWillie maintained the pistols had arrived at the post office but that he never accepted delivery of them. Canfield and Weberman asked if Ruby might have been supplying weapons to one Las Vegas gambler, McWillie, so that they could be given to another Las Vegas gambler, Johnny Roselli - and used against Castro. If captured, the assassination team would be carrying weapons not easily traced to the C.I.A. (from Brantley to Ruby, to McWillie, to Roselli, to the assassins). Was it this 1963 McWillie-Ruby-Cuba connection which prompted the Sturgis "Castro-did-it" story involving, this time, *Jack Ruby* in a J.F.K. assassination plot? Is still another Ruby link to anti-Castro activity being covered up by Frank Sturgis' story-telling?

### **The Anderson Admission**

On September 10th, 1976, Jack Anderson confirmed the assassination scenario as given here - and added his own further indirect involvement, in effect admitting he was one of the key names missing from the Schweiker Report. Anderson gave his three "confidential" sources as William K. Harvey, Johnny Roselli, and Edward P. Morgan. The columnist revealed that in January, 1967, Morgan came to him with the Syndicate-C.I.A. conspiracy story. Anderson said he took Morgan to Pearson, a "close personal friend" of Chief Justice Earl Warren, who took the story to the former head of the Warren Commission. Warren called in Rowley, the head of the Secret Service, and Rowley passed it on to the Bureau. We now have one more



name: Jack Anderson. But Anderson's story does not inspire confidence, as it included himself, with admitted ties to C.I.A. figures like William Harvey and double agents like Frank Sturgis, and past associations with such dubious institutions as the Diplomat National Bank in Washington with its links to the South Korean C.I.A. and the American Central Intelligence Agency; it included Drew Pearson, who knowingly cooperated with the C.I.A. in intelligence de-briefings after story assignments overseas; it included Edward P. Morgan, with business ties to former Attorney General Kleindeinst, under whom F.B.I. agents committed illegal acts of domestic intelligence-gathering, and who is himself a former F.B.I. agent now representing other F.B.I. agents accused of committing illegal acts; and it included Chief Justice Earl Warren, who presided over what may be marked in American history as its most shameful moment: the deliberate suppression of evidence in the murder of an American president.

On September 7th, 1976, Jack Anderson had pieced together his newest Castro-did-it story-line: the C.I.A. recruited John Roselli; Roselli recruited Giancana; Giancana in turn recruited Trafficante; and Trafficante recruited mobsters and anti-Castro Cubans in a plot to kill Premier Castro. The Trafficante team failed - and that same group, with Lee Harvey Oswald used as a decoy, ambushed Kennedy from closer than the Texas School Book Depository Building. Then Jack Ruby was commissioned by these "underworld conspirators," according to John Roselli, to kill Oswald, making it seem like an "act of reprisal" against the president's assassin. It is obvious that there is no logical need to include Fidel Castro in this story of the J.F.K. assassination - except as part of the continuing cover-up.

Richard Bissell, Allen Dulles' Deputy Director for clandestine operations in 1959 and 1960, testified before the Church Committee in July, 1975, that all C.I.A. Syndicate attempts against Castro were so sensitive that apparently only C.I.A. Deputy Director for Plans Bissell and C.I.A. Director Allen Dulles (later a member of the Warren Commission appointed by President Johnson) knew of the Castro-targeted assassination attempts within the highest governmental circles. But outside that official structure stood a figure, not quite in focus - intelligence operative, clandestine double agent, suspected organized crime contact man, alleged hit-team go-between, self-admitted sharp-shooting mercenary: Jack Anderson's friend, Frank Sturgis, the purveyor of evident and undocumented fictions involving Castro, Oswald, the KGB and, in one of Sturgis' versions of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, Jack "Leon" Ruby, of Dallas, Texas.



## **CHAPTER 17**

### **THE HOFFA MEDIATION**

#### **The Hoffa-Lansky Code**

Jack Ruby's life was a micro-history of the lives of the secret and violent men who traded in the Syndicate-C.I.A.-Caribbean market. Their world was a barter of markers: of mediations and reciprocities, assets and debts. Each of the market players wanted some of his own markers (promissary notes) in circulation: it was good for business; it kept one's name and action alive. But one had to hold other people's markers and, if possible, hold more markers than one gave out. Share the loot and exchange markers - sure ways of assisting the free flow of goods, services, and cash. Meyer Lansky built the National Crime Syndicate with those rules; Jack Ruby's life - and possibly his death - illustrated those Lansky principles.

So did the life - and death - of Jimmy Hoffa.

From the time Leon Cooke was allegedly shot by John Martin in Chicago, and Jimmy Hoffa's associate Paul Dorfman took over the Waste Handlers Union (after Jack Rubenstein "retired" from union office), Hoffa abided by the same rules which brought success to Caribbean lobbyists like I. Irving Davidson and William Pawley, Syndicate leaders like Meyer Lansky and Lucky Luciano, and a number of American intelligence agents. Their formula was to exchange information, share the wealth, and give and hold markers. In a world of mediations and reciprocities, small favors and penny-ante operations accumulated into big assets - or ever bigger liabilities.

### Hoffa and the Teamsters

From his Detroit-Chicago base in 1939, Hoffa built the Teamsters into an international order owning or financing motels, hotels, gambling casinos, resorts, shopping complexes, entertainment centers, golf courses, hospitals, and potentially-valuable real estate. Concurrently, the Teamsters Pension Fund and Pension Fund Insurance programs, from which Hoffa's vast financing operation came, grew to staggering proportions, originally part of the Hoffa-Dorfman deal, it was reported, which placed Teamsters insurance in the hands of the Dorfman family through Paul Dorfman's son, Allan, who controlled (with his mother) the Union Casualty Co. - collecting commissions in excess of \$3 million, according to one source, in the first eight years of operation.

Dorfman's job, according to Robert Kennedy, was to open up Chicago's Syndicate structure to Hoffa; reciprocally, Dorfman's family would get the Teamsters insurance business while Paul Dorfman, never a Teamster member, would direct the expanded Pension Fund program - ultimately extended to twenty-two states in the Teamsters Central States Pension Fund.

Dorfman applied the same Lansky-Hoffa principles and spread his wealth around, until his investments and operations allowed him to collect over \$4 million in fees and commissions in 1975 alone.

Earlier, in 1958, though Dave Beck was president of the Teamsters, James Riddle Hoffa was (1) chairman of the Central States Conference, (2) the Teamsters' most powerful official, and (3) obviously the union's next president.

On November 22nd, 1963, the *New York Times* reported that more than \$20 million of those Teamsters pension funds had gone to work in Nevada, primarily to bankroll gambling casinos run by the Syndicate, but also for "legitimate" businesses which were Syndicate-controlled. Before Hoffa had concluded investing in Las Vegas, the Teamsters would reportedly hold Syndicate markers in excess of \$50 million. Guaranteed loans from the Federal Housing Administration - and support payments from the Federal Public Health Service - helped finance entertainment and gambling complexes on the Vegas strip and their multi-million-dollar sewerage system below. The *Times* documented the early Teamsters-Syndicate connections: Hoffa, a trustee of the Pension fund; and Moe Dalitz, Sam Garfield, Ed Levinson, and Homer L. Woxberg, all with reported organized-crime links. Another figure was mentioned in the *Times*: Hank Greenspun, who reportedly received a large sum from the Hoffa-Dorfman Teamsters kitty to build a Vegas golf course.

Beginning in 1958, the Kennedy brothers had made Jimmy Hoffa one of their special targets - first, when they worked on the McClellan Committee, later as president and attorney general. From January, 1961 on, the "Get-Hoffa" drive was intensified. In 1962, Jimmy Hoffa stood trial for extortion. But the trial foundered and ended in a stalemated jury. Hoffa, president of the Teamsters, allegedly bribed a prospective juror for his new trial with \$10,000 passed through Hoffa's attorney Z.T. Osborn. Osborn was disbarred on November 20th, 1963, in Federal Court for his alleged bribery pay-off. On November 22nd, 1963, attorney Osborn indicated he would appeal his disbarment. Hoffa was convicted on jury-tampering charges and received an eight-year sentence in a Federal penitentiary.

Hoffa's multiple connections to the Syndicate are well-documented, but his close association with (1) the anti-Castro movement in the Caribbean and (2) the "Cuba Lobby" at home has not always been fully appreciated. But here, too, Hoffa was involved in the reciprocities occurring on the surface which were clues to the power-sharing negotiations going on underneath. For example, Teamsters-Nicaraguan-Somoza family lobbyist I. Irving Davidson was (1) a friend of the C.I.A., (2) columnist Jack Anderson's office-mate and friend, and (3) a business associate of the Murchison family of Texas for whom Davidson had negotiated at least one Teamsters Pension Fund loan. And Davidson reportedly worked hard to keep his friend Jimmy Hoffa out of Federal prison. Mortal threats against both the Kennedys made by Jimmy Hoffa and his associates have been recorded and are a part of the public record; two Teamster-associated assassination plans directed against Robert Kennedy have been reported in detail. Less well-known is the reason both Carlos Marcello and Santo Trafficante were reportedly antagonistic toward the Kennedys. Before the Kennedy assassination, according to the *Washington Post*, Jose Aleman, Jr. (linked to the Caribbean Complex's anti-Castro movement through his friend Rolando Cubela Secades, an admitted C.I.A./anti-Castro assassination plotter whose acronym was AMLASH) was negotiating for a Teamsters loan. Santo Trafficante offered to intercede with Hoffa's Pension Fund people on behalf of Aleman (what did Trafficante ask in return?). Angered at Kennedy for his administration's attack on organized crime spearheaded by Robert Kennedy's Federal multi-task force whose target was Jimmy Hoffa, Trafficante warned:

Mark my words, the man Kennedy is in trouble, and he will get what is coming to him.

.....

...he is going to be hit.

Aleman allegedly reported Trafficante's concern for his friend Hoffa and his seeming threat against the president (or at least his dark prediction) to the F.B.I.; Aleman, it seems, was an F.B.I. informant. The F.B.I. was concerned enough to interrogate Aleman closely - *after* the president was murdered; prior to November 22nd, 1963, the Bureau allegedly discounted Aleman's information. As Peter Dale Scott pointed out, no evidence exists in the Warren Commission's public record that the Bureau informed the Commission of this seeming threat to the president by a reputed Syndicate leader.

Another target of John and Robert Kennedy during the McClellan Committee hearings into Syndicate and corrupt labor ties was Washington lawyer Edward Bennett Williams, a reported long-time C.I.A. friend - and an enemy of the Kennedy brothers. Williams' activities on behalf of his "most important client," the Teamsters Union (and Jimmy Hoffa), caught the attention of McClellan Committee counsel Robert Kennedy. Later, according to Hank Messick, Edward Bennett Williams opened the "counterattack by the forces of reaction" after the Kennedy assassination. Williams was Bobby Baker's defense counsel before a Senate subcommittee investigating Baker's various Washington and Caribbean ventures, and the eminent attorney introduced a document in which Williams charged that reputed Syndicate figure Ed Levinson's phone at his Vegas casino had been tapped by Robert Kennedy's Justice Department. It was the beginning of the end of the Federal Task force war on organized crime. Sidney Zagri, a Hoffa aide, convinced Senator Ed Long of Missouri (a good friend of both Jimmy Hoffa and attorney Morris Shenker - long-time defender of alleged Syndicate figures - who happened to be Jimmy Hoffa's chief counsel) to investigate possible improper use of wire-tapping in the Jimmy Hoffa case. Hoffa had a good and powerful mediator in attorney Edward Bennett Williams.

In the judgment of several commentators, the Jim Garrison investigation was a massive disinformation effort coupled with a save-Hoffa drive. The Kennedy assassination reopening was suggested to Garrison by Senator Russell Long (who had large holdings in Texas oil and gas). According to Walter Sheridan, Senator Long was a major leader in the drive to save Jimmy Hoffa from prison. Several sources have reported that the Syndicate commissioned reputed Mafia leader Carlos

Marcello, a friend of Hoffa's, to save the Teamster boss, making \$1 million available to Marcello for his effort.

### **The Duclos-Chavez-Ruby Connection**

Warren Commission counsel Hubert and Griffin included Leopoldo Ramos Duclos (spelled "Ducos" in their memorandum) in a list of Ruby-related people they wanted investigated for possible leads to an assassination conspiracy. Duclos and Frank Chavez were chosen by Jimmy Hoffa to head the Puerto Rican Union Gastronomica after the independent union's headquarters had been bombed and destroyed with five Molotov cocktails in February, 1962. Chavez would later be reported to be a part of two assassination attempts against Robert Kennedy. Chavez and Mike Singer had led the fight for the Teamsters against the stubborn home union. Both Chavez and Mike Singer had records of involvement with organized crime on the West Coast, including Singer's alleged relationship to Meyer Lansky. On December 2nd, 1963, the F.B.I. indicated that Duclos had earlier reported to the Bureau a threat against his life linked to the Kennedy assassination. The F.B.I. found another Teamsters official who allegedly corroborated Duclos's story. A Puerto Rican Teamster officer, Miguel Cruz, had allegedly made the threat against Duclos. And Duclos added a fascinating item; he had heard Frank Chavez, now the Secretary-Treasurer of the union, associate Ruby with the Teamsters. According to Duclos, Chavez had told him sometime around September, 1961, that Chavez had an appointment with a group of Teamsters officials, including Jack Ruby. But nothing came of Hubert and Griffin's attempts to get information on Duclos. The C.I.A. first stalled for several months, then answered an irrelevant question - offering Hubert and Griffin nothing in response to their inquiries.

### **Mike Singer and His Friends**

But Mike Singer was not simply a Hoffa labor organizer in Puerto Rico. Federal records indicated Singer was a convicted extortionist who had, for example, built the International Motor Inn in Palm Springs, California. In the 1960s, Singer was reported to have been the business agent of Los Angeles Teamsters Local 626 and, at the time, a personal friend of Jimmy Hoffa. On January 29th, 1967, Mike Singer's associate Bobby Baker was found guilty on seven separate counts, including stealing nearly all of a \$100,000 fund of payments from California savings and loan companies - which, in turn, probably represented a financial scheme to influence Congressional action on tax-break legislation for savings and loan outfits. Until Mike Singer's death in March, 1967 (two months after Baker was found guilty),

Singer had been "active" in those same West Coast savings-and-loan circles. From a base in Waikiki Savings and Loan of Hawaii, Singer allegedly collaborated in those savings-and-loan machinations with Bobby Baker, former Nevada official Clifford Jones, and their associates, including Ed Levinson, the reputed Syndicate figure whose privacy Edward Bennett Williams defended when Williams was representing Bobby Baker before a Senate subcommittee.

Mike Singer was a founder of Allied Television Films, Inc., of Beverly Hills, which, in turn, became Allied Empire, Inc., a stockholder in the Bank of World Commerce, Ltd., incorporated in Nassau, the Bahamas, as a tax haven, Caribbean exploitation, and alleged money-laundering operation. As organized-crime expert Ed Reid reported, a complex maze of bank accounts, savings and loan accounts, and depositor-stockholders allowed alleged Syndicate money to flow into a Bank of World Commerce/Allied Empire/Anjon Savings and Loan combination. And Jimmy Hoffa held Allied Empire investment interests; a number of Vegas casino operators and Caribbean Complex politicians were fellow investors. On September 8th, 1967, *Life* magazine named three individuals with interests in the Bank of World Commerce/Anjon Savings and Loan complexity as "bagmen" for Meyer Lansky: one of them was a close associate of Ed Levinson and Bobby Baker.

Baker's related Caribbean activities also involved Ed Levinson, Cliff Jones, and others in a slaughterhouse and meat-packing venture in Port-au-Prince, the capital of Haiti. The company, HAMPCO, was a Dallas Murchison-family holding; Baker's negotiations included the Murchisons' Washington lawyers, Webb and Law; and Baker received help from I. Irving Davidson, lobbyist for Haiti, Nicaragua, the Murchisons, and Jimmy Hoffa's Teamsters.

Through Mike Singer (and his business associates Bobby Baker and Ed Levinson), Jimmy Hoffa was in financial partnership with important elements of the forces which were exploiting the Caribbean and, in particular, the Bahamas, in league with reputed Syndicate individuals who lent their support to the anti-Castro paramilitary movement which was organized and funded by the C.I.A. through the 1960s. George de Mohrenschildt's Houston group was planning a similar Haitian exploitation venture (including a casino operation); de Mohrenschildt had several connections to the Murchisons' petrochemical interests; at least one source has recently maintained that de Mohrenschildt was acting for the C.I.A. in Haiti; and de Mohrenschildt himself described his influential Washington friends in terms recalling both Baker and Davidson. The Murchison-Baker-Davidson activity and the de Mohrenschildt-Houston group should also be compared to the contemporaneous



Meyer Lansky-Mike McLaney interest in Haitian casino operations and other activities in the Bahamas; all three groups might have been part of a larger cooperative effort in the Caribbean which included Jimmy Hoffa.

The Duclos-Chavez-Singer story would have been a rich lode for the Warren Commission to have mined. The House Select Committee on Assassinations should find it still largely untouched.

A Secret Service Protective Research Division report from Detroit, dated January 29th and 30th, 1964, on Earl R. Ruby recorded the extraordinary lengths to which the Secret Service had gone running down non-existent leads: this one, about a rumor a "nephew of Jack Rubenstein had...[a] past or present connection with Jimmy Hoffa or the Teamsters Union." No such nephew (having such a connection) was found. Jack's *brother-in-law* had an I.T.A.S.E. union tie linking him to Johnny Roselli, for instance, which would have been interesting if pursued, but the Secret Service missed it. The Service did, however, find a clipping which it should have passed on to the F.B.I.: a *Detroit Free Press* article of November 26th, 1963, which described Ruby as "a former employee of a union whose directorate included a pal of Hoffa"; the union was identified as the Waste Material Handlers, "whose secretary-treasurer was Paul Dorfman until the AFL-CIO in 1957 ousted him...." The *Detroit* paper reported that an "intensive investigation" was being carried on by federal authorities. Earlier, the Kefauver Committee had interrogated Jimmy Hoffa on his association with Meyer Lansky, which someone on the Warren Commission could have linked to the alleged Mike Singer-Lansky relationship. During the Kennedy assassination investigation, a Justice Department internal memorandum indicated "a connection between Rubenstein and Frank Chavez and Tony Provenzano." The Duclos-Chavez-Ruby connections were at least provocative, even if they might have been found to be the equivalent of the Caribbean Complex's false Oswald stories. But a possible Ruby-Provenzano relation was even more intriguing: since Hoffa's disappearance, Teamsters/Syndicate figure Tony Provenzano has been one of the favorite suspects of local and federal investigators. Nothing in the Warren Commission's public record indicated it followed up its Ruby-Hoffa-Teamsters leads. As Peter Dale Scott observed, the Commission may never even have seen the Justice Department memorandum or heard about the Hoffa-Ruby possibilities.

### **"This is Our Connection"**

Hoffa put out markers and collected others. His good business practice may have saved his life - at least once. An F.B.I. summary dated November 27th, 1963,

cited a Bureau-bugged conversation between Anthony Giacalone and his brother Vito. Tony Giacalone was reporting a conversation he had held with Tony Zirilli, a reputed Detroit Syndicate leader. Zirilli was supposed to have said that they ought to "grab that Jimmy Hoffa." Giacalone was heard to say that he replied to Zirilli:

...Jimmy Hoffa is the type of guy you can't bulldog. No. 1, they'd never get in. No. 2, I said, whose connections do you think are keeping me out of jail[?;] this is our connection....

The message was clear: Jimmy Hoffa was still playing the game.

On October 3rd, 1976, Charles "Chuckie" Crimaldi, identified as a "one-time Chicago 'hit man'...now cooperating with federal authorities," was quoted as claiming that Jimmy Hoffa had been approached by the C.I.A. as the Agency's original liaison with the Syndicate in its plot to assassinate Castro. The Knight News Service commented that the Crimaldi "version" did not "square" with the "official accounts" of the Syndicate-C.I.A. conspiracy (what "official accounts"?).

Sam Giancana had been murdered on June 19th, 1975; less than two months later, on July 30th, 1975, Hoffa disappeared. Giancana, Sam DeStefano, Crimaldi's Mafia boss, and Crimaldi himself met in Chicago, according to the admitted hitman, and Giancana proposed that DeStefano make the Castro "hit." DeStefano and Crimaldi considered the offer as serious business, and DeStefano "asked for time to think it over." Later, on the advice of Paul Ricca, DeStefano allegedly refused. After the assassination of John F. Kennedy, the Chicago Syndicate organization suffered a re-shuffling which is still not over. Sam Giancana went into retirement in the mid-60s, and as one source indicated, the Chicago Mafia mob looked for leadership from (1) Tony Accardo and Paul Ricca, (2) Giancana associates like Battaglia, Alderisio, Buccieri, and Cerone, and (3) the "now aging...young Turks," including Charles "Chuck" Nicoletti and Sam DeStefano. Accardo excepted, these leaders subsequently were subject to a suspiciously high rate of mortality. Battaglia, Alderisio, Buccieri, and Ricca were dead by April 1973. Sam DeStefano, a one-time favorite of Paul "The Waiter" Ricca and privy to the Syndicate-C.I.A. secrets with which Sam Giancana entrusted him, suddenly ran into bad luck. Under indictment for murder, DeStefano became the topic of an underworld rumor: he was soon to write publicly about certain past organized-crime escapades. While the king of Chicago "juice" (loan-sharking) was working in his garage on April 14th, 1973, someone stepped in and emptied a shotgun into Charles Crimaldi's boss.

Whatever Sam DeStefano knew about Hoffa, the Syndicate, and the C.I.A., he lost memory of, dying on the floor of his just-cleaned garage.

Some support for Crimaldi's C.I.A.-Hoffa-Syndicate relation is supplied by sources (sometimes with low reliability) having an apparent connection to Jack Anderson. They reported that Robert Maheu contacted Roselli through Jimmy Hoffa, Meyer Lansky, and Sam Giancana, to set up the Castro assassination. This bit of information could be discounted, except that it is paralleled by an important later incident linking Maheu, Roselli, Hoffa, and Moe Dalitz (reputedly close to Lansky).

### **The Maheu-Morgan Relation**

Charles Crimaldi's two stories, (1) Hoffa and the C.I.A. and (2) Giancana, DeStefano, and the C.I.A. anti-Castro hit offer, are credible for at least two reasons: they fit the known facts, and they are consistent with prior and subsequent behavior of the figures. But despite Crimaldi's persuasiveness, and even if the stories are true, one cannot escape the suspicion that a Chicago underworld-family war had been kite-tailed to the Kennedy and Hoffa mysteries. What tends to reduce suspicion is still another reciprocity in which Hoffa was involved.

In September, 1966, Robert Maheu prepared for Howard Hughes' arrival in Las Vegas. His intention was to lease an entire floor in one of the casino hotels for the reclusive Hughes. At Wilber Clark's Desert Inn, Maheu received help from an old associate and friend, Johnny Roselli. Roselli used his influence with one of the Desert Inn's owners, and seven penthouse suites - comprising the entire ninth floor - were leased indefinitely to Howard Hughes through Johnny Roselli's good offices.

But the real power at the Desert Inn, Moe Dalitz, was reportedly not happy with the Maheu-Roselli-Hughes arrangement. According to several sources, Dalitz was the senior member of the old Cleveland Syndicate - the Great Lakes combination which united with Luciano and Lansky-Siegel organizations to form the base of the national Syndicate. During Prohibition, three leaders of the "Silent Syndicate," as Hank Messick called it, Morris Kleinman, Samuel Tucker, and Dalitz, were all indicted on liquor-smuggling charges; now they owned the Desert Inn. Like Jack Ruby and Meyer Lansky, Moe Dalitz well knew the virtue of mobility. Originally from Detroit, he had moved to Cleveland. In Ohio and Kentucky, Dalitz had run illegal gambling casinos; after that, he settled in Las Vegas, backed his front man, Wilber Clark, and reportedly operated the rich Desert Inn.

The lucrative Desert Inn suites, intended for fast turn-over and available to the Desert Inn's junketing high-rollers, were now tied up by Hughes, and, according

to one source, Dalitz did not like it. In December, 1966, Dalitz allegedly demanded that Robert Maheu move Howard Hughes out immediately.

Robert Maheu then turned to another old friend, and, according to the *Schweiker Report*, another veteran of the Syndicate-C.I.A. war on Castro - Washington attorney Edward P. Morgan. Like Maheu, Morgan was also a former F.B.I. agent, and had been committee counsel for the joint congressional group which investigated the Pearl Harbor scandal. Morgan also held the distinction of being the Senate Foreign Relations Committee counsel when it investigated Senator Joseph McCarthy. As Peter Dale Scott has pointed out, an early anti-McCarthy alliance had been forged between Drew Pearson, Jack Anderson, Maheu's friend and "political ally" Hank Greenspun, and Edward P. Morgan. The allies had taken on Senator McCarthy and his China Lobby friends in the early 1950s. The Pearson-Anderson-Maheu-Greenspun-Morgan group extended its connections to liberal anti-Communists in the State Department and the C.I.A. (targets of the McCarthy-McCarren forces), and it was this early Maheu-Morgan alliance which gave most of the group informal access to State Department and Agency information and, later, gave the group its leverage against foes of the State-intelligence community. By 1954, the group would reportedly have friends in the State and intelligence apparatus involved in the overthrow of the Arbenz government in Guatemala. And one must also keep in mind another member of the alliance, Somoza/Teamsters lobbyist I. Irving Davidson, who was a close friend of Jack Anderson, the Murchisons, and Lyndon Baines Johnson.

Morgan and Maheu had worked together since the early 1950s, and in this instance the two lawyer-friends represented the two sides of an important Hughes-Dalitz operation. Because of the earlier anti-Castro operation, Maheu's and Morgan's intelligence assets should not be dismissed as irrelevant. The story that Moe Dalitz was angry over the Hughes-takeover of the Desert Inn's ninth floor may be an easy cover for an arrangement much less *ad hoc* than is suggested. In any event, Maheu was quite aware that one of Edward P. Morgan's most important clients was James Riddle Hoffa, now former president of the Teamsters. Maheu and Morgan were also aware of the Desert Inn's indebtedness to the Teamsters Pension Fund - a massive loan arranged by Hoffa. Hoffa had leverage: he held Dalitz/Syndicate markers. It is not clear, however, what Hoffa markers Maheu and Morgan held - if any. The Crimaldi Hoffa-Syndicate-C.I.A. story strengthens the conclusion that Morgan and Maheu were not only calling on a mutual friend and client - but were also renewing a working arrangement with a fellow conspirator against Fidel Castro.

Robert Maheu's defamation of character suit brought against his former employer Howard Hughes resulted in a 1974 trial at which Moe Dalitz himself supplied much of the new information about the Hoffa-Dalitz-Hughes negotiations, though that information may have been slanted to suggest greater antagonism between Dalitz and Hughes than was really there. Dalitz identified Hoffa as his "old friend" who asked that Hughes be accommodated as a "personal favor" to Hoffa. Dalitz allegedly resented Hoffa's pressure, but a subsequent Dalitz-Hank Greenspun meeting resulted in Dalitz offering to sell the casino-hotel. Greenspun was supposed to have told Dalitz he had a friend who was gifted at bringing buyers and sellers together; Greenspun meant Edward P. Morgan, his friend since 1954. One of the other Desert Inn owners had, coincidentally, commissioned Johnny Roselli to find a buyer for the Desert Inn. The result of this complex and slightly incredible series of antagonisms, consultations, and negotiations was a \$13 million lease - at an annual rent of over \$1 million - to be paid to the Dalitz combination by Hughes. At midnight, April 1st, 1967, Howard Hughes moved into his Vegas casino gambling operation, headed by Robert Maheu.

The Las Vegas "revolution" which Hank Greenspun allegedly anticipated with Hughes' arrival was less clean than it looked; Syndicate operators stayed in place as managers and consultants when Hughes bought a casino property. The Desert Inn deal, as Peter Dale Scott suggested, may, in fact, have been a massive "laundering" operation. What I have added to Scott's conclusion is the strong possibility that *Hoffa mediated that laundering process, given his past associations with both wings of the Intelligence-Syndicate attempts against Castro*. The operation could be seen as the transfer of government funds through Hughes' military contracts into the Syndicate casino system. Following it, a heavy infusion of Teamsters money - \$57 million - allowed Moe Dalitz to build Rancho La Costa, California - the "La Costa Country Club" so near San Clemente that it would be a convenient meeting place for John Dean, John Ehrlichman, and Bob Haldeman of President Richard Nixon's White House staff, Frank Fitzsimmons of the Teamsters, and other Nixon associates. La Costa became an important focus for meetings associated with the Castro-Kennedy-Hoffa story. In July, 1968, for example, La Costa was the site of a reported meeting between Moe Dalitz, Allard Roen (formerly an owner of the Desert Inn), Allen Dorfman (of the California Life Insurance Co.), Sidney Korshak, Mrs. Jimmy Hoffa, and Wallace Groves of the Bahamas.

Hughes leased the Desert Inn back to the Dalitz combination (the land on which it stood was separately owned), avoiding a required personal appearance before the Nevada Gaming Commission, with Dalitz listed as an "unpaid

consultant." Johnny Roselli stayed on at the Desert Inn and boasted of receiving a \$50,000 finder's fee; he also received a valuable gift-shop concession at the Frontier Hotel. Edward P. Morgan received a \$150,000 finder's fee, and Morgan, in turn, paid Hank Greenspun \$25,000, who turned out to be a minority "point-holder." Jack Anderson, Greenspun's friend, was a part-owner of Greenspun's newspaper, and was credited by one source as having taken part in the Morgan-Maheu-Greenspun negotiations. Cecil Simmons, a minority owner of the Desert Inn, also received a finder's fee in the complex negotiations. And Simmons, it seems, had earlier wanted to place some distance between himself and certain events of November 22nd-24th, 1963, just after which Simmons was interrogated by the F.B.I. The F.B.I. report out of Las Vegas was dated December 3, 1963:

The following investigation was conducted by SAs RICHARD E. RODERMUND and ROBERT G. CASEY, on November 25, 1963:

CECIL SIMMONS, part owner, Desert Sun Hotel, Las Vegas, advised he has not been in Dallas except for two or three visits in four or five years. He recalled he had seen JACK RUBY on no more than ten occasions. The times he had seen RUBY were in the Adolphus and Baker Hotels....

.....

RUBY had a nightclub across the street from the Adolphus and invited SIMMONS on two or three occasions to visit it, but SIMMONS never did. SIMMONS stated he did not know RUBY other than to "say Hello." (italics added)

Like other figures with police or organized-crime connections, Simmons obviously felt it dangerous to exchange even friendly greetings with Jack Ruby. The myopic F.B.I., with a possible Ruby-Simmons-Dalitz-Hoffa connection in its possession, failed to pursue this important lead.

The *Washington Observer* attributed the Hughes-Dalitz sale to Greenspun, Morgan, and Jack Anderson, but the equally-important Maheu-Morgan-Hoffa connection was not publicized. Still, the *Observer* noted that Greenspun, Morgan, and Anderson had "about landed a \$1 billion Federal atomic development contract for the Hughes Tool Co." (italics added) Hughes' well-advertised fear of government atomic-testing in Nevada may have been an eccentric intensification of a more business-like interest in the nuclear explosions that periodically rocked the Desert Inn - and Hughes' ninth-floor headquarters.

Unpublicized, Jimmy Hoffa stood at the apex of a Hughes- Syndicate-government triangulation: quite a few markers must have been called in.

Jimmy Hoffa finally went to prison in March, 1967, for jury-tampering; in 1971, President Richard Nixon issued Hoffa a conditional pardon: Hoffa was barred from the Teamsters' presidency until 1980. Later, allegedly burning with renewed Teamsters zeal, Jimmy Hoffa kept a pressing appointment with some of his old friends. On July 30th, 1975, Jimma Hoffa disappeared and has not been seen since.

According to one source (with seemingly reliable House Select Committee on Assassinations connections), Charles Crimaldi informed House investigators that Jimmy Hoffa was "murdered, his body dumped into a junkyard car, which was crushed and smelted...." Crimaldi allegedly revealed "the Teamsters boss...was killed on orders of the C.I.A...."; according to Sam DeStefano's former gunman, Hoffa had been the Agency's original contact with the Syndicate in the conspiracy to assassinate Castro. Crimaldi insisted that the "same man that killed Momo [Giancana] took care of Hoffa for the same reason: he knew about the Castro plots...." Crimaldi's story, florid as it is ("on orders of the CIA"), fits the Hoffa pattern of mediation developed here.

### **The New Jersey "Suspects"**

By the 1976 anniversary of Kennedy's assassination, the Hoffa case seemed about to break. Robert Ozer, a member of the Justice Department's Strike Force, had named three "alleged suspects" with both Teamsters and Syndicate connections: Thomas Andretta, Gabriel Briguglio, and his brother Salvatore Briguglio. All three were from New Jersey, and, according to the Justice Department, all three were associates of Tony Provenzano, the reputed New Jersey Syndicate-Teamsters leader.

According to an F.B.I. informant, on a wintry day in 1971, two inmates of the Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, federal penitentiary had an important conversation: one was Jimmy Hoffa, the other, his long-time ally and friend, Tony Provenzano. "Tony Pro" had been convicted of extortion, and had lost his estimated \$100,000-a-year Teamsters pension as a result. Provenzano wanted Hoffa to use his clout to restore the lost beneficence. But, according to the F.B.I.'s source, Hoffa refused, and Provenzano erupted in violent antagonism: "I'll bury you," he was quoted as shouting. According to the F.B.I., the Hoffa-Provenzano intimacy was finished. If true, the incident gave Provenzano both personal and financial motive

for wanting Hoffa out of the way; it did not, however, exhaust the probability of multiple anti-Hoffa motivations and the important possibility that the alleged Provenzano enmity was used, either by Hoffa enemies or by the federal authorities (or both), to implicate Provenzano and his associates and to set up the New Jersey organization.

Later, Federal authorities reported that Hoffa had again played the mediator, this time agreeing to cooperate in a government inquiry into the alleged misuse of Teamster Pension Fund money; in return, the Justice Department would lift Nixon's ban on Hoffa's re-entry into Teamster power politics. We are entitled to speculate, however, that Hoffa may have been willing to cash in one of the biggest markers in his possession - what Richard Nixon might have meant when he worried about "the whole Bay of Pigs thing" - a Hoffa-held marker reading "Castro/Kennedy."

According to Justice Department sources, the three Provenzano associates flew from New Jersey to Michigan to accomplish the Provenzano hit. Provenzano was supposed to be in retirement in Hallandale, Florida, but actually still giving orders to Teamsters Local 560 in Union City, New Jersey, and therefore to the Teamsters-Syndicate operations in New Jersey, according to the Justice Department. Allegedly, Hoffa had made overtures to Provenzano in his attempt to regain power, but Provenzano had refused to negotiate. When Hoffa continued to press him, Provenzano and his associates decided, according to federal authorities, to eliminate him. The three New Jersey men picked up Hoffa at the Macchus Red Fox Restaurant outside of Detroit, and killed him, dumping his body off Jersey City stuffed in a 55-gallon oil drum (a version differing in its disposal-method from the Crimaldi story, but sounding like a twin of the Roselli murder). According to the same government source, Provenzano and Briguglio were under indictment in connection with an "unrelated" case - the alleged murder of a New Jersey Teamster officer in 1961. Justice Department sources identified the alleged patsy in the Hoffa case as Charles "Chuckie" O'Brien, self-styled "foster son" of Jimmy Hoffa.

In 1969, organized-crime expert Ed Reid took notice of the rumblings in the Giancana-Accardo Chicago organization - and suggested that two figures might emerge as the boss of the Chicago mob: either Marshall Caifano or Anthony J. Spilotro (the favorite of Felix Alderisio). Reid noted Spilotro's world travels, including trips to Amsterdam, Antwerp, Monaco, and Nice - speculating that the Syndicate aspirant to the position once held by Sam Giancana was dabbling in both diamonds and dice.



Seven years later, Tony Spilotro showed up in Las Vegas at the Circus Circus casino. The Teamsters purchased the land for \$2.6 million, leased the land to Stanley Mallin and Jay Sarno, then extended their credit a bit further: the Circus Circus was built with Teamsters money, so that by June, 1974, the casino was in debt to the Brotherhood for \$28.6 million. With its own gift shop, the Circus Circus still leased space to Tony Spilotro for *his* shop; in his first six months of operation, he reportedly grossed \$70,000. Spilotro's Teamster connection must have been good - maybe too good. In August, 1976, an anonymous self-styled "international assassin" told reporters of a national weekly tabloid that Jimmy Hoffa had been betrayed by someone close to him; that Charles O'Brien was a "key figure" in the kidnapping and murder rather than a fall guy; and that those "intimately associated" with the Hoffa hit were Tony Giacalone (who it will be remembered once reportedly informed Tony Zirilli that Hoffa was "our connection"), Sal Briguglio, Anthony Provenzano (late of New Jersey, now of Florida), and Tony Spilotro, called a "Las Vegas don."

According to this admitted hired killer, Provenzano allegedly met him and his partner, a French political assassin named Frank DePledge, in May, 1975. A friend of Provenzano's had recommended the hit team: Sam Giancana. But the two would-be assassins allegedly declined the contract, and then later accepted a second Provenzano contract on two of the actual assassins, a European killer named Azzuri ("the Arab") and a "brother" of Tony Spilotro. That double hit was also never concluded, according to the unnamed political assassin.

What emerged from this complication looked like an attempt to "clear" Tony Spilotro and further implicate Tony Giacalone, once Hoffa's close friend and an ally of Tony Provenzano.

On July 8th, 1977, Federal authorities "close" to the Hoffa investigation informed the *New York Times* that the inquiry had "collapsed." After hundreds of tips were received and nearly eighty witnesses were interviewed, the investigation was back where it had started:

Members of the Hoffa family...said that the former teamster president intended to meet Anthony Giacalone, a reputed Detroit underworld figure, on the day he disappeared. Mr. Giacalone, they said, had offered to arrange a meeting between Mr. Hoffa and Anthony Provenzano, secretary-treasurer of the Teamster Local 560 in Union City, N.J., a former ally who later turned against Mr. Hoffa.

The *Times* reported an unnamed informant had allegedly fingered Thomas Andretta and the Briguglia brothers as Hoffa's killers, all reported to be associates of Provenzano, according to the *Times*. "The inquiry into the disappearance of James R. Hoffa...has collapsed."

According to the *Schweiker Report* and later newspaper accounts, Edward P. Morgan told the F.B.I. in 1967 the Morgan-Maheu-Roselli story of Fidel Castro's "counterassassins" who "came to the United States; possibly to murder John F. Kennedy," and, as of 1967, resided "in the State of New Jersey." Was this Morgan-Maheu-Roselli revelation, hinting at foreign assassins and "New Jersey" connections, a suggestion that the alleged Giacolone-Provenzano Teamsters-Syndicate group was either involved with, or harboring, the Kennedy assassins? Was the F.B.I.'s Lewisburg prison informant a link in that new assassination story?

While Hoffa was still alive, he was a principal in a number of crucial mediations involving, it seems, figures linked to both Castro assassination plots and attempts on the Kennedys' lives. Even presumed dead, Jimmy Hoffa possessed a potential leverage which was used, I think, to move some big political obstacles, including Richard Nixon, and allegedly involving Anthony Provenzano and Allen Dorfman (the son of Jack Ruby's friend, Paul Dorfman) in a reputed \$1 million pay-off from the Teamsters to Nixon's campaign fund.

On December 23rd, 1971, Richard Nixon conditionally pardoned Jimmy Hoffa; on June 17th, 1972, the Watergate break-in occurred; one month later, on July 17th, 1972, Frank Fitzsimmons, now Hoffa's rival for power in the Teamsters and the chief beneficiary of the president's prohibition against Hoffa's re-entry into Teamsters' politics, met with other important Teamsters officials, reputed Syndicate attorney Morris Shenker, and Allen Dorfman, Paul Dorfman's son and his heir in the Teamsters Pension Fund insurance empire. The meeting took place at La Costa Country Club; immediately after, Fitzsimmons and Nixon met at San Clemente, and the Teamsters reputedly offered their support to Nixon in his re-election attempt. In December, 1972, Nixon pardoned alleged New Jersey Syndicate figure Angelo "Gyp" De Carlo; the pardon was reportedly negotiated through Richard Kleindeinst (law partner of Edward P. Morgan) who has since been charged with involvement in Teamsters Pension Fund irregularities. According to several sources, the pardon was "expedited" by John Ehrlichman and John Dean.

Tony Provenzano, reputed New Jersey Teamster and Syndicate leader, delivered \$500,000 to a Richard Nixon contact in Las Vegas early in January, 1973, according to a confidential source; on January 6th, 1973, a government informant alleged he delivered \$500,000, collected by Allen Dorfman, to a Nixon associate in Las Vegas in a meeting reputedly arranged by Charles Colson.

Whether an alleged \$1 million "pay-off" in parts or two versions of the same \$500,000 "pay-off," the Teamsters-Nixon "payment" has been denied by the former president.

One month later, on the week-end of February 10, 1973, again at La Costa Country Club, Frank Fitzsimmons, Allen Dorfman, and a reputed Syndicate figure were allegedly meeting about a Teamsters health plan; on that same week-end, John Dean, John Mitchell, and John Ehrlichman were allegedly working on the Watergate cover-up, also at La Costa Country Club. At present, no evidence exists that the two groups met together during that week-end, despite their common interests (President Richard Nixon, for example). In early December, 1973, Charles Colson, allegedly acting for Richard Nixon, intervened in a New York Teamster-Syndicate extortion scandal. On June 30th, 1975, Jimmy Hoffa disappeared; four months later, some friends of Hoffa - Nixon, Fitzsimmons, Provenzano, and Dorfman - took part in the La Costa Country Club golf tournament.

It is not easy to see this series of events as unrelated.

Jimmy Hoffa had direct connections to the Caribbean Complex/Cuba Lobby campaign against Castro - and to anti-Kennedy activities (beside his known participation in both) through:

1. Paul and Allen Dorfman (and Jack Ruby);
2. the Las Vegas Syndicate casino operations (and earlier, the Havana operations of that same group);
3. I. Irving Davidson;
4. Carlos Marcello and Santo Trafficante;
5. Edward Bennett Williams;
6. Frank Chavez and Mike Singer;
7. John Dioguardi, nephew of James Plumeri;
8. Tony Corallo (friend of triple-operative Herbert Itkin;

8. Tony Corallo (friend of triple-operative Herbert Itkin; and Itkin himself could have had a connection to Hoffa through Paul or Allen Dorfman);
9. Moe Dalitz;
10. Morgan, Maheu, and Roselli.

But the Hoffa mediations described here, of course, are not the only reported or confirmed relations Hoffa had with (1) the Cuba Lobby, (2) the Caribbean Complex, (3) organized crime, labor racketeering, and Las Vegas casino operations, (4) threats to both Kennedys, and (5) the Maheu-Morgan group. In the Akros Dynamics case, for example, examined by the McClellan Committee and reported on by its counsel, Robert Kennedy, evidence had been found

...that the Teamsters Union was prepared to give financial support to an airplane company involved in smuggling arms to the Dominican Republic. The same records proved that Jimmy Hoffa was personally concerned in the deal.

The Hoffa-Carlos Marcello connection, for example, yields a score of significant interconnections and extensions: for example, the Partin witness story; or the David Ferrie-Marcello story, involving smuggling, Syndicate, intelligence, mercenary, anti-Castro Cuban, "Oswald," and New Orleans-Garrison relations.

## **CHAPTER 18**

### **ROBERT MAHEU AND ASSOCIATES**

#### **Maheu and Intelligence**

Robert Aime Maheu became an F.B.I. agent in 1940, with war ripping Europe apart and fear of sabotage and spies rife in America. His first assignment was in Arizona, and Maheu has not revealed very much about those early years, telling self-deprecating stories about his incompetency. Moving to Seattle, Washington, he opened a "resident" FBI office, and again, according to Maheu, he was less-than-brilliant in his new assignment. One bright moment in his Seattle residence was his marriage to Yvette, the girl he had known since he was eleven years old. In 1942, Maheu was asked to come to Washington, D.C., primarily because of his bilingualism: he was from French-Canadian stock, and his French was perfect.

Maheu's new assignment was his first experience with covert operations; he was to act as control for French aviator Dieudonne Coste, sent by the Nazis as a double agent; in Spain, Coste had been de-briefed by American intelligence after a tip from the British, and the Americans induced Coste to become a triple agent. The problem was that a second Frenchman was being sent over who was also a Nazi spy; his job was to by-pass the Coste complication, sending the Germans real information while Coste duped the Americans. Maheu's assignment was to keep Coste honest and fool the "real" Nazi spy. The mission was successful; with Maheu's help, spurious information was sent to Germany for two years. At the end of his counterespionage activity, Maheu was promoted to senior assistant to Agent E.J. Connally, Bureau Director J. Edgar Hoover's deputy. Maheu's assignment was to run the F.B.I.'s important New York City office.

Yvette's health, however, had gone bad, and Maheu was transferred to Maine by Hoover. The calm Waterville environment was no match for either the spy atmosphere of Washington or the big-city fever of New York, and, in 1947, Maheu resigned. Though the stories of Hoover weeping when they parted may be dramatic license, it is still true that the Bureau chief thought highly of Robert Maheu and assisted him in later years. Maheu's subsequent business venture ended in bankruptcy, but J. Edgar Hoover used his influence to get his one-time favorite the position of Director of Compliance and Security, Small Defense Plants Administration, Washington, D.C. Maheu was back working for the government, back in security work, and associated with the dispersal of "defense" loans to American business. His future was forecast in that new job. When the S.D.P. Administration became the Small Business Administration, Maheu was appointed the Administrator's special assistant for security. In 1955, Maheu resigned from his well-paying government position and went into business for himself. Sort of.

First, Maheu's probable contacts with O.S.S. during his French-German-American counter-intelligence work for the F.B.I. have not been publicized, though he could hardly have controlled Coste and worked against the real German agent without the O.S.S.'s knowledge or direct involvement. Second, Maheu's stint with the Small Business Administration occurred precisely when the C.I.A. was growing in power under the deputy directorship of Allen Dulles, who assumed that position in 1951. The year 1947 was marked nationally by the passage of the National Security Act which created the Central Intelligence Agency, the lineal descendent of the O.S.S.; it was also the year Maheu resigned from the F.B.I., allegedly because of boredom, to go into private business. The early Maheu years with the Small Defense Plants Administration were the same years that Howard Hughes fashioned special gadgets for the C.I.A., hiring allegedly-retired or separated C.I.A. employees for his defense plant operations, and winning contracts like the \$70-million plum to build the F-11 photo-reconnaissance aircraft he himself designed. Later, C.I.A. Deputy Director for Plans Richard Bissell would distinguish himself for the introduction of advanced spying technology into the C.I.A.'s bag of tricks, including the high-flying reconnaissance aircraft, the U-2. But before the C.I.A. could take full advantage of the innovative work of Hughes and Bissell, its power base had to be secured.

With the dismemberment of America's war-time clandestine capability when the O.S.S. was disbanded, a circle of Eastern-educated, affluent lawyers, former intelligence officers, politicians, and statesmen planned the development of a new American covert operations and information-gathering organization. Led by Allen

Dulles, former O.S.S. officer with strong ties to the European intelligence complex which eventually absorbed the Gehlen-Vlassov spy system; Thomas Dewey; and Dewey's foreign policy adviser, John Foster Dulles, the nascent "American Intelligence Community" received its charter when President Truman signed the National Security Act into law, and, according to Howard Kohn, the members of the "secret circle" became the officers of the new C.I.A., the government-godfather of (1) American international mega-corporations in the third-world nations, (2) a para-private enterprise seeking expansion and profit, and (3) the American bulwark against the spread of world Communism.

The larger context of the growth of the C.I.A. and its multiple motivations is paralleled by the history of Robert Maheu, his interests, and his philosophy - and his contacts, known and suspected.

When Maheu went into business as a "private detective" and as a public relations and management consultant, he made contact with the Society of Former Special Agents of the F.B.I., headquartered at the Statler Hilton in New York, to whose members he distributed contracts and assignments. The F.B.I.'s overseas operations during the Second World War had involved it in espionage and counter-intelligence, often with the cooperation of both the O.S.S. and foreign intelligence services. The Bureau's known coveting of the Latin-American intelligence beat gave both its present and former agents an experiential and philosophical stake in blocking the growth of left-wing, anti-government operations, especially after the war when Communism seemed to threaten both Europe and the Americas with instability (at least) and revolution (at worst). The Directorate for Plans in the C.I.A. had hired former F.B.I. agents with expertise in counter-intelligence and Latin American affairs: in Cuba and Ecuador, for example, it reconstructed the Bureau's clandestine system. The F.B.I., its former agents, the C.I.A. and its ex-F.B.I. operatives, and Robert Maheu all shared identical interests. And it is possible that Robert Maheu was so much a favorite of J. Edgar Hoover that he never left the employ of the Bureau, but became a deep-cover penetration-agent into the para-intelligence structure which grew up around the newly-formed Agency. It is also possible that Maheu made his first contact with the Hughes organization as an officer of the Small Business Administration charged with security control within the Administration's client businesses. It may be that Robert Maheu was part of that early growth of the C.I.A. during his years in security work with the Small Business Administration. And it could have been that Robert Maheu was (1) loyal to the F.B.I. and its anti-Communist director, J. Edgar Hoover, (2) familiar with, and friendly to, the growth of the Hughes organization and its

burgeoning C.I.A. support, and (3) a C.I.A. proprietary manager. Everything in Robert Maheu's subsequent career suggests that he might well have been all of these things much earlier than his public record suggests.

And Robert Maheu may have had contact with the Syndicate years earlier than the Congressional committees interested in his activities have established.

### **Operation Underworld**

The United States had just entered the war, and American intelligence was reportedly concerned about Nazi spying and sabotage on the docks, harbors, and shipyards of the American coastline. The F.B.I. had taken into custody or interrogated a number of suspicious persons for just that reason, including Baron George de Mohrenschildt, who had French and German intelligence connections. The Syndicate controlled the East Coast docks through its dock-workers' locals; the sinking of the *Normandie* while it floated in its Manhattan dock berth may have been a Syndicate warning of things to come: the converted liner was about to transport American troops to Europe. Now it smoked, a wrecked hulk, useless to anyone. Except, possibly, to Meyer Lansky.

The Luciano-Lansky-Siegel coalition of the 1930s is quite well-known. With Luciano in jail with a sentence theoretically putting him out of circulation until 1986, Lansky moved brilliantly to collect markers from American intelligence, the American government, and the Mafia. Naval Intelligence had worked out a scheme to ask Luciano for cooperation on the New York docks; Lansky got an agreement from Luciano that the Mafia's dock unions would "police" the vulnerable coast outlets - no more *Normandies* would burn in their moorings. The Syndicate would have a free hand in "organizing" East-Coast shipping labor; and Luciano would be given his freedom - but deported. Thomas Dewey, responsible for sending Luciano to prison, now reversed himself, and as Governor of New York (with the backing of John Foster Dulles), sent Luciano to a state facility near Albany, where the Mafia don could be more comfortable; and, at the end of the war, Dewey paroled Luciano. Luciano was allegedly responsible for the O.S.S.-Mafia connection which supplied intelligence and covert assistance from the Sicilian Italians to the Allied invasion force which landed in Sicily. Afterward, the Mafia would "cooperate" in France (and elsewhere), its Corsican branch helping to clear the French docks of suspicious characters like Communists and labor organizers while keeping the ports open for later C.I.A.-Syndicate smuggling and other operations. Vito Genevese would be the Syndicate's archetypal double operator on the continent, working first with German



intelligence and then American military intelligence - and the Syndicate's overseas black-market operations (sometimes run by former Nazi and Fascist collaborators). The Lansky-Luciano-ONI-OSS cooperation was called "Operation Underworld." Meyer Lansky held an impressive set of Government-intelligence markers against a future rainy day.

In exile, Luciano organized the Syndicate's new European smuggling structure. According to Howard Kohn, the C.I.A. helped Luciano in this phase of his overseas activities, supporting the opening of a Syndicate conduit for its growing drug trade. With the cash and weapons the Agency supplied him, Luciano sent his gunmen into the Marseilles docks in 1947, eliminated a Communist-strike threat, and kept the docks open to American commerce and the Lansky-Luciano narcotics traffic.

Robert Maheu's counter-intelligence experiences dealing with French-German double agents; his closeness to J. Edgar Hoover; and his early association with just those figures who organized America's intelligence capability during the war (and then, after 1951, re-organized it into its new and powerful shape), argue strongly for Maheu's being an F.B.I./C.I.A./Hughes operative years earlier than we have been told. The American intelligence community's (1) cooperation with German intelligence, through Gehlen and, afterward, through American military intelligence, Allen Dulles, and the C.I.A., and its (2) later involvement with French anti-Communist operations, linked the O.S.S. (and its successor, the Central Intelligence Agency) directly to the Lansky-Luciano Syndicate both at home and in Europe. Those connections might help to explain the invitation from the Company to Robert Maheu to contact Syndicate figures for a planned assassination of Fidel Castro. The Maheu connection could have been a continuing part of "Operation Underworld."

Did Robert Maheu work with, or have contact with, Syndicate figures while in F.B.I. counter espionage? Was one of the figures Johnny Roselli or a friend of Roselli in Las Vegas and Los Angeles? Was Robert Maheu the logical person for the C.I.A. to commission as its Syndicate-contact and hit-organizer? Did Robert Maheu represent a complex of conservative anti-Communist forces in and outside of the F.B.I., in the C.I.A., and in the Howard Hughes organization, all of which, from the beginning, collaborated in planning the assassination of Fidel Castro and the invasion of Castro's Cuba? When the secret training sites for the anti-Castro operations were being set up in 1960 and 1961, one of them was on Cay Sal, off Florida - owned by Howard Hughes. Howard Kohn cited his C.I.A. source for the information that Hughes gave the agency temporary control of the island as well as

an alibi for the anti-Castro mercenaries and commandos training there: they were to assert the munitions and weapons were part of a Hughes cinema effort. Gerry Patrick Hemming, a soldier-of-fortune who has been linked to the Caribbean conspiracy through a half-a-dozen relationships - including a close working arrangement with Frank Sturgis - said he helped bring in crates of equipment for the mercenary/Cuban-exile/C.I.A. operation which were labeled "Toolco," the name of the Howard Hughes' holding company.

Maheu set up his "Robert Maheu Associates" in an office shared by Carmine Bellino, then a specialist in accounting frauds (Bellino would later become senior financial prober for the Watergate Committee). This Bellino-Maheu-Watergate connection has never been sufficiently explored, and there is, of course, no evidence to suggest that Bellino's presence in a key area of the Ervin Committee's investigations aided Robert Maheu's friends in the intelligence community, the Hughes organization, and in organized crime. But any such early relation, no matter how innocent, should have worried someone on the Watergate Committee when the Committee's staff was being organized. Maheu made his productive contact with the Society of Former Special Agents of the F.B.I., and by no later than 1955 was on a regular "retainer" with the C.I.A. as well as handling certain security-related jobs for Howard Hughes. The identities of Company agents were kept secret by being placed on Maheu's payroll. But if Maheu was not already familiar with O.S.S.-C.I.A. activities, we are entitled to ask if Carmine Bellino might have introduced his office-mate to the Agency and its clandestine, Syndicate-associated activities.

According to the public record, Maheu was asked by officers of the C.I.A. to recruit Syndicate figures who would then hire, teach, and let loose an anti-Castro assassin or team of assassins. One source has made an important presumption: that *Maheu's retired F.B.I.-intelligence friends supplied a list of "likely candidates."* That same source reviewed Roselli's career in terms compatible with the scenerio I have suggested (that Maheu may have already known Roselli - or his Havana-Las Vegas-Los Angeles associates - at an earlier and still-undisclosed time). According to writers Davenport, Eddy, and Hurwitz, Roselli's job following the death of Benjamin Siegel was to supervise the Syndicate's gambling interests in Las Vegas (and some sources say, in Havana). According to these sources, Roselli's function was to decrease the visibility of the Syndicate's involvement in Nevada gambling operations. In 1966 and 1967, this Syndicate goal was precisely fulfilled by Robert Maheu's fellow conspirator and friend when Roselli acted as one of the key mediators in the Howard Hughes "takeover" of the Las Vegas organized-crime apparatus, for which Roselli received (at least) \$50,000 and an important and

lucrative concession at the Frontier. Further knowledge of the Maheu-Roselli exchange of markers in 1959-1960 and again in 1966-1967 could help us understand a great deal more about the shifting power struggles that have marked the last thirteen years, including the answer to why the names *Castro*, *Kennedy*, and *Hoffa* are recurrently heard above the heavy but indistinct voices bargaining for position and leverage inside - and outside - the government of the United States.

The Maheu-Hughes-Roselli relationship went back a number of years, and fragments of evidence suggest that (1) Hughes and Maheu together were involved in the early C.I.A.-Syndicate planning for the demise of Fidel Castro, and (2) Hughes may have been the one who suggested Roselli through their mutual Hollywood connections. Working backward, we have the Roselli-Hughes Desert Inn relationship; then we have Robert Maheu's testimony in May, 1974, that Hughes said he knew Johnny Roselli for a number of years: how many years, we are not told.

A circumstantial case can be made that Hughes and Roselli knew each other since 1930.

October 6th, 1927: *The Jazz Singer* spoke and sang, and the "silent" movie was doomed. One of the great war movies of all time (whose "dog-fights" would be used as story-board material for *Star Wars'* brilliant battle of laser-firing ships) was in the middle of production; but the director-producer finally brought the filming to a halt, and made his decision: "It's got to have sound. I'll make it over again." The battle scenes could still be used - and they would never be surpassed. But the dialogue was, in a word, rotten. The star, Greta Nissen, would have to be replaced. Joe Engle, once president of Metro Pictures but reduced to the job of gateman for one of the studios, suggested Nissen be replaced by a newcomer, the sensuous Jean Harlow. Hal Roach had used her in a couple of Laurel and Hardy comedies, and, in one of them, the gimmick of the skirt caught in the car door and ripped away had brightened the evening of a number of morose men who otherwise would have been contemplating the swift slide of their money and investments into oblivion. Harlow's silky hair and underwear relieved the time's tensions. The director-producer agreed, and Harlow was hired for \$125 a week. The film took three years to make - and cost \$3.5 million: and it was a hit.

Harlow was sent on the road to plug the film; she bought \$1,500 worth of new clothes for her performances, and the man who had spent the equivalent in 1977 dollars of \$10 to \$50 million on her film refused to accept the bill. Harlow opened with cheap clothes, cheap perfume, and an even cheaper act. When "Longie" Zwillman saw her act, he knew she needed help.

Jean Harlow was Trilby to "Longie" Zwillman's Svengali; or, if you like, he was Pygmalion to her "fair lady." The transformation was complete; the press bought her new act, and the Harlow promotion tour was a complete success. The affable and influential Syndicate man was lover, manager, and father to the platinum-haired wonder, and they were often together on her tour. But Zwillman had to break the bad news: he would have to be away - several months in prison on an old "intent-to-kill" charge. So Harlow and Zwillman would have their farewell moments at the Hollenden Hotel in Cleveland, after Zwillman had a business meeting in its Harding Room - where Moe Dalitz, reportedly of the Cleveland Syndicate, met Jean Harlow.

Zwillman knew that the contract Harlow had with Caddo Corporation would have to be negated, but the deal would have to be sweetened. Joe Schenck, Zwillman's friend, worked out the details. United Artists would offer Harlow's director-producer a five-picture contract package for 1931. Reciprocally, Harlow would be free to make five pictures for someone other than Caddo Corporation. The deal went through; and though, earlier, Jean Harlow's name had been linked romantically with her director-producer (they had appeared together in a number of studio publicity shots), he eventually thought so little of her, according to one highly-reliable source, that he sold her contract for only \$40,000 to MGM.

Before Abner Zwillman left Harlow to pay his minor debt to society, he introduced her to his West Coast associate who would be her protection and contact with Zwillman. Harlow met Zwillman's friend: he was on good terms with the Chicago mob, and was the Syndicate's overseer in the growing capital of glitter. His name was Johnny Roselli. And Jean Harlow's director-producer - the man who made *Hell's Angels* - was Howard Hughes.

Was this Zwillman-Hughes confrontation and Zwillman-Roselli collaboration between 1927 and 1930 Howard Hughes' first experiences with the Roselli Los Angeles-Las Vegas Syndicate group?

## **CHAPTER 19**

### **AND WE ARE ALL MORTAL (I)**

#### **Executive Action**

A decision was made to depose or murder Fidel Castro sometime in 1959 by the Eisenhower administration or members of that administration, possibly as late as December. According to former C.I.A. employee Robert Morrow, Vice-President Nixon met with Cuban-exile leader Mario Garcia Kohly in October, 1960, at the Burning Tree Golf Club, and a Cuban invasion plan was agreed upon. Kohly had been ambassador to Spain under Cuban President Carlos Prío Socarras, and Socarras and the Kohly family were close friends. Accompanying the vice-president were two C.I.A. officers, General Charles P. Cabell and Tracy Barnes. On the assumption that he would be the next president of the United States, Vice President Nixon allegedly agreed that "Operation Lake" - the Kohly-planned invasion of Cuba at Trinidad, on the southeastern coast of Cuba - would be followed by the "elimination" of the "left-wing" CRF Cuban-exile leaders, after which Kohly would be recognized as head of the new Cuban government. Kohly allegedly commanded an underground force of 42,000 men in Cuba as well as a guerrilla group based in the Escambrey mountains: they would join the war against Castro at invasion time.

Morrow reported that British intelligence had discovered "strange installations" being built in Cuba in January, 1960, and by April, 1960, the U.S. State Department had been informed. No later than the spring of 1960, Sturgis, Alexander Rorke, and Ilona Marita Lorenz were admittedly attempting to poison Fidel Castro - one year earlier than the *Schweiker Report* revealed that William K. Harvey allegedly passed poison pills to Johnny Roselli so that a "Cuban" could assassinate Castro in 1961. But in one account of the planning, Maheu contacted Roselli as early as 1959 to begin the Agency-Crime operation against the Cuban Premier. And sometime between January 1st, 1959, and September, 1960, Plumeri, Granello, Bufalino, and an associate, George Levine, had been recruited (with their \$750,000 stash to be recovered from Cuba sweetening the pot) to collect intelligence and, according to one source, kill Castro. No later than December 11th, 1959, C.I.A. Chief Allen Dulles directed that "thorough consideration be given to the elimination of Fidel Castro."

### **David Atlee Phillips' "Special" Mission**

Though Chapter 3 in Phillips' *The Night Watch* is titled "Washington, Cuba, Lebanon, Cuba 1955-1959," a few clues in that chapter tell us he was in Cuba early in 1960. Phillips remarked on the passing of "the final days of 1959" - and of his "precarious" position should Cuban intelligence discover he was a covert C.I.A. officer. Phillips also recruited certain disillusioned "Cuban officials" as intelligence "sources" before he left the country. And Phillips was asked by his Havana Agency superiors to take on what he called a "special" assignment: he was to contact certain anti-Castro Cubans planning a coup in Havana. Phillips approached one of the conspirators in disguise, and attended at least one secret meeting of the group. But Phillips suggested he had recognized a weak link - a possible "Castro informant" or a potential informer. Phillips flew to Washington to brief Headquarters and was allegedly told to drop the anti-Castro Havana group. He was soon to leave the country, but just before his departure, Phillips maintained, he received news of the arrest of several of the anti-Castro plotters. To the C.I.A.'s Cuba desk officer, the affair sounded dangerous for Phillips, but the high-ranking Agency man had left his family behind - he would have to get them out. He did return, and took his family to safety in Florida.

The Phillips "special"-mission story is the closest we get to an admission from Phillips that he was, in fact, the operations case officer for the AMBLOOD-Veciana assassination team in 1960-1961.

According to writer Ernie Volkman, the "CIA's chief agent in Havana" first became involved in an anti-Castro assassination plot in August, 1960. His name was withheld from the Volkman discussion (whether by the author or his source is not clear) because (as of early 1977) the operative still worked for the Agency. Phillips' alleged premature resignation from the Company was punctuated by a Langley "retirement party" on May 9th, 1975, after which he spent two years organizing and administering his association of "retired" members of the American intelligence community, writing and lecturing, and testifying to various Congressional committees about "Oswald" in Mexico City. Volkman's "chief agent" of the Havana C.I.A. operation was approached by an "anti-Castro Cuban" - whose name was also withheld because he too still worked for the C.I.A. (as of early 1977): could Volkman be recounting a meeting between case officer David Atlee Phillips and Antonio Veciana? According to this source, the Cuban was about to meet a group of Cuban leaders, including the Castro brothers. Would the Company like some spying done? The "meeting" is somewhat incredible (as told by Volkman), but its details are consistent with what we already know about anti-Castro Cuban, mercenary, Syndicate, and Agency plans to "eliminate" Castro. In this version, the unnamed Havana C.I.A. agent cabled Agency headquarters about possible "intelligence needs" and received a reply from Phillips' associates Tracy Barnes, Deputy Director for Plans, and J.C. King, Western Hemisphere Division chief. Phillips, Barnes, and E. Howard Hunt worked together against the Arbenz government in Guatemala; on March 17th, 1960, President Eisenhower gave his approval to the National Security Council recommendation to train and arm anti-Castro Cuban exiles for an eventual overthrow of Castro. Allen Dulles commissioned Phillips' associates Cabell, Tracy Barnes, E. Howard Hunt, and the rest of the Arbenz veterans to overthrow Castro. King's and Barnes' cabled response to the unidentified Havana Agency officer was consistent, therefore, with this earlier thrust planned against the Cuban leader. It began (according to Volkman):

**POSSIBLE REMOVAL TOP 3 LEADERS IS RECEIVING  
SERIOUS CONSIDERATION AT HQS.**

Bribes of \$10,000 and college educations for the sons of the would-be assassin were offered as inducements for arranging an "accident" to befall Castro. The C.I.A. agent passed the word on, and the hired assassin left to do his nefarious work. No Washington flight was necessary in this version to countermand the projected hit; a second cable allegedly followed the first, cancelling the operation: not soon enough, however, to catch the assassin. But all ended well; the anti-Castro Cuban was unable to fulfil his C.I.A. contract anyway.

The whole story sounded suspiciously like a stripped-down version of (1) the AMBLOOD-Veciana plot and (2) the Phillips' "special" mission. Though cinematically derived ("too late, he realized he could not recall the killer"), Volkman's chief-agent-in-Havana episode is not unlike sometime-actor David Atlee Phillips' longer version.

With the Dulles "elimination" scheme, the National Security Council-Eisenhower approval, the Nixon-Kohly agreement, the AMBLOOD plot, the Veciana conspiracy, the Plumeri-and-company Syndicate attempt, the Lansky-Syndicate council offer, the Sturgis-Lorenz-Rorke poisoning attempt, and the Phillips "special" mission, actions against Castro's life were moving briskly in 1959 and 1960 attributable to various combinations of C.I.A., American government, anti-Castro Cuban, Syndicate, and mercenary plotters.

Sometime between December 11th, 1959, and as early as March, 1960, but no later than September 7th, 1960, the multiple Agency/ Cuban-exile/ Syndicate/ mercenary conspiracies against Castro were going forward - and sometime in this period Allen Dulles and Richard Bissell commissioned Office of Security Chief Sheffield Edwards to contact Robert Maheu (according to one source a C.I.A. employee no later than 1954) because, reported one source, Maheu had a "wide circle" of associates and contacts, including several Syndicate figures in Las Vegas.

According to several sources, the Director of the C.I.A.'s Office of Security then reached Robert Maheu in the autumn of 1960. In an interview in 1976 with Richard Bissell, former Deputy Director for Plans (Clandestine Operations), my colleague Professor Harald Sandstrom questioned Bissell on his role in the U-2 operations, the C.I.A.-Syndicate plot to kill Castro, and the Bay of Pigs. Bissell told us that the Syndicate anti-Castro hit contact was handled

...through the Office of Security - and that was unique.... I knew in a general way of the contacts with [Maheu] at the time.... All the contacts with the Syndicate were handled through the Agency's Security office. They were not ever handled, at least in the early stages, when I was there, by the Operations side of the Agency.

.....



I remember at the time with respect to contacts with the Mafia the feeling that Shef Edwards, the Security Chief, who was in a sense the "case officer" for that operation, had arranged things so that there were a lot of cut-outs between his man O'Connell and those individuals who would be most likely to divulge information, or be caught, or confess....

One of these "cut-outs" was Robert Maheu; a second was Johnny Roselli. Someone at the Agency - or possibly Robert Maheu - recalled that Roselli had been "involved" in Syndicate operations in pre-Castro Cuba, adding to the Mafia figure's Company credentials.

### **Richard Cain**

On September 7th, 1960, Maheu, Roselli, and an unnamed C.I.A. agent (possibly Edwards or Edwards' "man," Jim O'Connell) held a meeting at the Brown Derby in Beverly Hills. According to several sources, Maheu first offered the Castro hit contract to Roselli on that date. Roselli agreed to the assassination plan.

On September 14th, 1960, an unnamed "CIA Support Chief" (possibly the Brown Derby "C.I.A. agent"), Johnny Roselli, and Robert Maheu met in New York at the Plaza Hotel, allegedly to plan the recruiting of the assassination group. No later than ten days after the Plaza Hotel meeting, another planning session took place, this time in Miami, and Roselli introduced Maheu to two more participants: Sam Giancana and Santo Trafficante.

Giancana's right-hand man was Richard Cain, whose real name was Scalzetti. According to one source, Cain was involved in the earliest anti-Castro assassination planning. In 1960, Cain was on leave from the Mayor Daley-run Chicago Police Department. His unofficial covert assignment was the investigation of Daley's associates in various law enforcement offices for Republican State's Attorney Benjamin Adamowski, a foe of Mayor Richard Daley. Cain's investigative moonlighting against his own mayor was discovered - and after suspension from the police force, he resigned. In 1960, Cain was also in Miami helping to train the anti-Castro Brigade for the C.I.A.'s Bay of Pigs invasion. In 1963, Cain was back in Chicago as chief investigator for Cook County Sheriff Richard B. Ogilvie. But a phony drug raid which Cain set up resulted in his 1964 indictment and conviction on charges of perjury, conspiracy, and obstruction of justice. Ogilvie fired Cain - though his conviction was afterward reversed.

Reasonably well-read and a polyglot, Cain went back to his Syndicate connections, and accompanied Giancana on the Chicago boss's Central and South American travels. The Giancana-Cain story from 1964 through 1973 is a part of the larger pattern which saw the Caribbean Complex and the Syndicate (including Meyer Lansky and Mike McLaney) move into Mexico, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and the Bahamas (it is possible that George de Mohrenschildt was part of that effort). Both Giancana and Cain were in trouble with the law a number of times. Giancana's increasing vulnerability, Cain's growing ambition (a dream of junkets to casinos in Greece, Cyprus, and Malta, for example), Paul Ricca's death, and Sam DeStefano's murder on April 14th, 1973, all could be seen as aspects of the shifting forces within the Chicago Syndicate organization. But the Chicago seismic flutter was only a sign of the larger power fractures which could be observed all along the fault line opened after the November, 1972, elections. Among the "dozens" of individuals who had no love for Sam DeStefano was Anthony Spilotro - the reputed Chicago Syndicate figure who would show up as a suspected principal in the Jimmy Hoffa disappearance.

In New Orleans, Cain and Giancana finally separated, allegedly over Cain's junketing plans. Cain then began a series of actions still not explained: he contacted Marshall Caifano and, according to one source, attempted to get Caifano to re-organize the old Giancana mob; Accardo had Joey Aiuppa running the group. However, Aiuppa was ill, and Gus Alex was acting chief. But Cain went to Caifano. It has been suggested that Cain even began to put his own candidacy forward as the logical new Chicago boss. Cain was warned to cool his ardor - but he ignored the portents. Cain began to see "old friends" (in the Chicago Police Department and County Sheriff's Office?), media people, and others. What was never fully appreciated about Richard Cain was his duplicity: working with the police and the Syndicate; working with the Syndicate and the State's Attorney's office; working with the C.I.A. and the Syndicate. Richard Cain was a familiar police/organized crime type. But maybe someone fully appreciated what Cain's multiple contacts could mean. Just as Sam DeStefano was suspected of treachery, and his life was snuffed out by a double-barreled shotgun, so on December 20th, 1973, eight months after DeStefano was blown away, a masked gunman put a 12-gauge shotgun to the back of Richard Cain's head as he sat in Rose's Sandwich Shop in the Sicilian northwest side of Chicago - and Richard Cain, Chicago policeman, private detective, anti-Castro plotter, Sheriff's investigator, Giancana-Syndicate figure, Bay of Pigs instructor, State's Attorney's detective, and man of dubious friendships and

aspirations, was added to the growing list of the dead associated with the C.I.A.-Syndicate plots against Castro.

### **Sam Giancana**

In the period between 1960 and 1965, Sam Giancana's power was at its peak; according to one source, his estimated gross income from all revenue production was approximately \$2 billion a year. The absolute force of his word could be felt in Chicago, Cook County, and throughout the upper Midwest; and Giancana shared power or held important interests in Miami Beach, St. Louis, Arizona and California, Las Vegas, and south into Mexico and the rest of Latin America.

Joseph Shimon has testified he was present at the 1961 Fontainebleau meeting between Roselli, Giancana, and Maheu, where the poison pills were allegedly first delivered. And Shimon recorded a curious comment that Giancana made: "Maheu's conning the hell out of the CIA." No one has attempted an explanation of Giancana's observation, but the Chicago don may have been referring to what he knew about Maheu's many hats.

After the Kennedy assassination, the stories of Giancana's alleged relations with the Cal-Neva Club, with Louis McWillie, and Frank Sinatra, signalled his increasing visibility - and, hence, as Peter Dale Scott has said of others, his diminishing clout. In June, 1975, Senate investigators were tugging on a number of loose strings which looked like Agency-Syndicate plots against Castro - with possible links to subsequent events in Dallas: Johnny Roselli had talked to a Senate committee about his role in Castro-murder attempts. Giancana, at 67, had shown no interest in a Syndicate power ploy (as has been suggested); he was allegedly recovering from a major gall bladder operation performed in Houston. While there, according to Tom Curtis of the *Washington Post*, Giancana was under "very intensive surveillance" by federal agents in Houston from May 25th until June 17th. Suddenly all federal surveillance was eliminated - and on June 19th, 1975, the night before he was to be interviewed by Senate investigators, Sam Giancana was murdered in his Oak Park, Illinois, home. Before even a semblance of an investigation could be mounted, authorities were announcing that revenge or ambition must have motivated Giancana's hitman. As Mark Lane observed in a letter dated June 21st, 1975, to Frank Church, Chairperson of the Senate Intelligence Committee, we were again assured that "the lone assassin has struck again...." Giancana's family, however, seemed to know better: a daughter of Sam Giancana

"adamantly insisted" that her father had been murdered by the assassins of John F. Kennedy.

### **Oswald in New Orleans - and Dallas**

The twisted trail from the over-heated anti-Castro activities of New Orleans to the crude anti-Kennedy advertisements of November 22nd, 1963, in Dallas is impossible to traverse without risking some kind of cerebral shock. Along the way, a number of Syndicate-associated and Cuban-exile figures die, including Rolando Masferrer, blown up on October 5th, 1975, a notorious Batista henchman allegedly in touch with Loran Eugene Hall, Carlos Bringuier, Orlando Bosch, Manuel Gil of INCA, and Jack Ruby.

In the summer of 1963, Oswald in New Orleans made contact with a group of anti-Castro individuals and groups, most of whom Masferrer and F.B.I.-informant Carlos Bringuier were either working with or knew well. Oswald's actions - and Bringuier's assessment of those actions - suggest an attempt by the seeming Marxist and one-time defector to penetrate the New Orleans anti-Castro movement on behalf of some yet-to-be-identified American government group. Bringuier let his conservative associates know about Oswald, including Edward Butler, a political propagandist for the anti-Castroites. Butler, with intelligence connections, worked at radio station WDSU. While distributing leaflets for the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, Oswald was arrested (with media coverage in excess of the event's importance) after a fight (which might have been staged) with Butler's friend, Carlos Bringuier (formerly media secretary for the C.I.A.-supported Cuban Revolutionary Council in New Orleans). Oswald's trial was covered (again, beyond even its local significance) by WDSU-TV; and his second leaflet distribution, five days later, was *also* covered by WDSU-TV. This series of media events set up still another: Bringuier and Oswald "debated" on WDSU with Butler as "host." Butler "exposed" Oswald as a defector, and the radio material was turned into a "truth tape" for the intelligence-associated Information Council of the Americas - INCA. Under pressure from this publicity (and other negative news coverage) and harassed by government agencies and Congressional committees, the national Fair Play for Cuba Committee dissolved itself. *Was this result precisely the object of one of Oswald's covert jobs?*

One curious and bizarre set of connections suggesting Oswald's possible role as a government informant in both New Orleans and Dallas is supplied through the activities of Senator Thomas Dodd. The Senator from Connecticut, a leading

member of the Cuba Lobby, had taken testimony from several important Castro defectors, including Sturgis' friend, Pedro Diaz Lanz. Just four months before the assassination, Dodd had presided over a Senate Internal Security subcommittee investigation of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, and had called it "the chief public relations instrument of the Castro network in the United States." According to an earlier F.B.I. report on the FPCC, the pro-Castro group had been *"heavily infiltrated by the Communist party and the Socialist Workers party."* A House Un-American Activities Committee, according to one source, made identical findings. While Lee Harvey Oswald was still alive on November 23rd, 1963, news reports on the FPCC stated that it had been "the subject of a series of investigations by Congressional committees and the Justice Department over the last three years [1960-1963]." The seemingly-contradictory behavior of Lee Harvey Oswald makes more sense in the light of these Dodd/Internal Security/F.B.I. materials. Oswald had contacted (1) the FPCC, (2) the (anti-Communist) Socialist Workers Party, and (3) the (anti-Socialist Workers) Communist Party. He could not have set up a more consistent pattern had he been *working* (directly or indirectly) for Dodd's Internal Security subcommittee.

The second possible Oswald-Thomas Dodd connection is the Connecticut Senator's leadership of the Senate's juvenile delinquency subcommittee and its interest in gun-control - especially mail-order gun control. One of the companies Thomas Dodd's subcommittee was interested in was Klein's of Chicago. One of the weapons about whose unregulated traffic the American Congress in 1963 was disturbed was the Mannlicher-Carcano.

It would be ironic if some of Thomas Dodd's allies, say, people in the State Department's Office of Security (Otto Otepka, for example), or in the Justice Department (the F.B.I., for example), or in the Treasury Department (say, in the Alcohol Tobacco, and Firearms Division), chose Lee Harvey Oswald - with a "delinquency record" - first, to contact two splinters of the American left-wing and "join" a pro-Castro committee allegedly infiltrated by both splinters; then, to order a rifle through the mails under an assumed name, just to prove how dangerous the Fair Play for Cuba was, and how dangerous unrestricted gun traffic through the mail really was. A Fair Play for Cuba member with ties to both the Communist and Socialist Workers parties had been able to order a lethal weapon (which had been a concern of the American Congress) under an assumed name through the United States mail.

It would be a further irony if those right-wing anti-Castroites in New Orleans (the friends of Rolando Masferrer) who had been contacted by Oswald penetrated his "pro-Castro" cover, discovered his Congressional committee assignments, and proved, on November 22nd, 1963, how *"really"* dangerous double agents with mail-order rifles could be.

## CHAPTER 20

### AND WE ARE ALL MORTAL (II)

On July 30th, 1975, Jimmy Hoffa disappeared; on October 5th, 1975, one of Jack Ruby's anti-Castro Cuban connections, Rolando Masferrer, former member of the New Orleans MIRR group which included Carlos Bringuier, and an alleged associate of mercenary Loran Eugene Hall, was blown up in his car; on April 5th, 1976, Jimmy Hoffa's good friend, Howard Hughes, allegedly died of internal decay.

**William K. Harvey, Jr.**

In August, 1975, Taylor Branch and George Crile, III, published an article called "The Kennedy Vendetta." Vaunted as an "expose" of the JMWAVE-Miami C.I.A. station and its "secret war" against Castro, the *Harper's* magazine piece gave up very little the Agency could not afford to surrender, and C.I.A.-officer General Edwin Lansdale - William K. Harvey's co-worker - received much more in return: a chance to ascribe the Agency-mercenary-Cuban exile operations to the Kennedys. The Bill Moyers-George Crile CBS special in 1977 on the Cuban exile community in Miami, especially with its focus on Barker and Martinez of the Watergate break-in, fostered the same inferences and came to the same conclusions: the Kennedys did it. From the Crile-Lansdale-Ray Cline perspective, the president and his attorney general were clearly guilty of ordering their faithful Agency operatives and mercenary cowboys into battle, and Castro retaliated in kind on November 22nd, 1963, sending an ex-Marine (of doubtful political persuasion who left a trail to everyone's doorstep except the Salvation Army) with a defective rifle and four rounds of ammunition to a Dealey Plaza sniper's nest in a lone-assassin lunacy. Crile, Lansdale, and Cline, of course, did not include Oswald in their scenario, but he lurked at the edges of the epical images of anti-Castro heroes, ready to play his part.

That Kennedy directed the Castro assassination attempts has never been supported by any direct piece of evidence: quite the opposite. "Evidence," however, may surface in 1978; we have, on the record, E. Howard Hunt with his razor and paste allegedly forging Kennedy documents to "prove" Diem was murdered on the orders of the White House. But the president was disinclined to have Castro eliminated, at least by murdering him, a fact corroborated by a half-dozen reputable sources. When faced with these facts, Agency backers usually slide off the John Kennedy argument and shift to Robert as the one who knew of, approved of, or directed the anti-Castro attempts. Aware that the president's intention, after the Bay of Pigs, was to have his brother ride herd on the Company, C.I.A. supporters have argued that Robert Kennedy actually ran the Agency - or at least its covert, anti-Cuban "secret war." The argument is not worthy of men of honor.

Lansdale's insistence the Kennedys were "responsible" (in a sense, for their own deaths) was a thematic concern threading through the word and action of a number of figures associated with the Castro-Kennedy-Hoffa stories; Hoffa himself, just before he disappeared, used the same line: "Who the hell knows what deals he had? That he didn't keep? Who knows?" One of Lansdale's closest associates, William K. Harvey, followed that same motif.

No later than February, 1961, Deputy Director of Plans Richard Bissell assigned C.I.A. officer William K. Harvey to coordinate the anti-Castro Executive Action team. Harvey, I think, was not arbitrarily chosen for his Executive-Action leadership by Dulles, Bissell, and Sheffield Edwards. His choice, in fact, may not have come from the C.I.A. hierarchy, but from Robert Maheu. Consider the following: (1) Harvey joined the F.B.I. in 1940; (2) he "resigned" from the Bureau in 1947; (3) he joined the C.I.A. in 1947; (4) he was a close friend of Johnny Roselli; (5) he worked with conservative elements in the American intelligence community and with Syndicate leaders to assassinate Fidel Castro; (6) he advocated other relations between the Company and organized crime and, according to one source, may have been involved in those activities. The parallels to Robert Maheu are unmistakable.

According to several sources, Harvey took over his assignment as early as March, 1961, and therefore would have been the Agency source for the "first" set of poison pills which Roselli handled. Harvey admitted under oath - or perjured himself testifying - that he and Deputy Director Richard Helms (later in charge of the Agency's Oswald investigation for the Warren Commission), deliberately



withheld from their own Director, John McCone, knowledge of the C.I.A.'s key role in the Syndicate plots. Senator Church's Senate Intelligence Committee determined that Lansdale and Harvey attempted to get approval from the Kennedys to enlist organized-crime figures in their projected anti-Cuban operations - and failed. Joseph Shimon's executive-session testimony to the Intelligence Committee in September, 1975, probably named Harvey as one of the plotters present at the March, 1961, Miami meeting which included Roselli and Giancana. But *Harvey's* testimony contained a curious, maybe even ominous, element. Harvey worried, he alleged, that "Cubans" or "figures in organized crime" might blackmail the government "for their own protection...." It was a dangerous but possibly calculated "worry" to disclose to a Congressional committee in 1975.

After the Bay of Pigs defeat, Lansdale and Harvey ran "Operation Mongoose," a series of Agency anti-Castro actions. "Mongoose" has gotten "good" anti-Kennedy media coverage - with Lansdale hinting that Castro hit-attempts had the express approval of the Attorney General Robert Kennedy. But Lansdale's program was being overseen by the "Special Group Augmented" (the S.G.A.), which included C.I.A. Director John McCone, McGeorge Bundy, Alexis Johnson, and Robert Kennedy. The very opposite of the Lansdale suggestion is historically true: S.G.A., under the leadership of Robert Kennedy, blocked and disapproved of every Lansdale-Harvey proposal to use the Syndicate against Castro. When Robert Kennedy was allegedly briefed by Office of Security Chief Sheffield Edwards on Syndicate-Agency cooperation, the Attorney General disapproved, and ordered Edwards to come to him if the C.I.A. contemplated any further use of the "Mafia." Nothing on the public record suggests the Agency returned to Robert Kennedy for such clearance.

Realistically, the heavy-handed Lansdale-Harvey presentations to the S.G.A. left Harvey free to operate covertly with the same Syndicate figures Lansdale was proposing the Agency use. The "Mongoose" operations may simply have been a way for the Company to establish (1) it *had* brought its plans before the proper Administration authorities and (2) one of its wilder operatives, Harvey, just went ahead without presidential or S.G.A. approval. One source may (inadvertently) have transmitted the current Agency line on Harvey using a string of strongly-perjorative words (*despised, irritated, complained, abrasive, resentment, etc.*) as well as phrases like "free of the SGA restraints," "highly independent," "penchant for independent initiative," and (an Allen Dulles criticism of Harvey) "conspiratorial cop," which sounded like Harvey was being set up as a maverick Agency patsy for something even darker than hits against Castro.

By the summer of 1963, according to several sources, William K. Harvey had become a "bitter antagonist" of the president and an "even more bitter" enemy of the attorney general. Robert Kennedy and other Administration and C.I.A. officials were reportedly angry over Harvey's alleged "unauthorized" sorties during the October, 1961, Missile Crisis. Other rather-ripe covert actions with which Harvey was associated, ZRRIFLE, QJWIN, and WIROGUE, suggested that Harvey was in fact the Agency's key assassination expert through 1969 (one source believed he directed them).

According to writer Duffield Thomas, William Harvey attended a "retirement party for another CIA officer" (but not further identified), at which "some 200 people" allegedly witnessed Harvey in a liquor-besotted rage swear a "blood oath" against John and Robert Kennedy. Was the source of this story also David Atlee Phillips, and, true or not, was the story given to Thomas as a part of the developing "Harvey-did-it" scenario?

Though Harvey was allegedly ordered to end the Syndicate assassination tries in the autumn of 1962, Harvey testified he may not have effected their termination for "a period of a few weeks" after getting the alleged cease-and-desist order. Did Harvey's procrastination stretch into a "few" months - until the fall of 1963? Early in 1963, Harvey was re-assigned to the C.I.A.'s Rome station, allegedly an "unwanted" and "untrusted" agent. But the Senate Intelligence Committee disclosed that as late as June, 1963, William K. Harvey met with Johnny Roselli at what was reported to be a "farewell dinner" for two close-working friends.

After allegedly retiring from the C.I.A. in 1969, Harvey moved to Indianapolis, where he was law editor for Bobbs-Merrill Publishing Company. At the age of 60, on June 9th, 1976, William K. Harvey died of a reported heart attack in an Indianapolis hospital. The death was not announced until June 14th in the *New York Times*, under the rather quiet heading, "W. Harvey, C.I.A. Aide, Dead; Linked to Anti-Castro Plotting."

On April 5th, 1976, Howard Hughes allegedly died of natural causes - if the reported disabilities he suffered can be called "natural." On April 23rd, 1976, Johnny Roselli was questioned secretly concerning the Kennedy assassination by the Senate Intelligence Committee. On June 9th, 1976, William K. Harvey, the close friend of Howard Hughes' associates Johnny Roselli and Robert Maheu, died of an apparent heart attack. On June 13th and 14th, 1976, the days Harvey's death was being publicly announced, the attempted 1960 poisoning of Fidel Castro by Frank

Sturgis and Ilona Marita Lorenz was publicized - a striking coincidence, since Harvey was the admitted C.I.A. source for the poison he gave to Johnny Roselli, which was then passed on to their Syndicate-Cuban exile group. On July 28th, 1976, Johnny Roselli disappeared - and was found on August 18th, murdered. We are reminded again of our less-than-random cosmos.

### **Johnny Roselli**

With hindsight, we can see John Roselli moving through his life toward that oil-drummed death: as Fillipo Sacco from Esperia, Italy, to Boston and New York, where Fillipo Sacco became John Morgan, and then to Chicago, and passing through the big cities, John Morgan became Johnny Roselli, after the man who finished the Sistine Chapel; later, to the West, California and Nevada; and finally Miami, ending dismembered in an oil drum sluggishly bobbing in Biscayne Bay.

According to several sources, Roselli was the Capone-Nitti organization's West Coast representative; in 1928, when Roselli met with Al Capone at the Metropole Hotel, the two got along so well that Capone invited Roselli to visit the mob's Lexington Hotel headquarters. Two years later, when Capone visited Los Angeles (a kind of American epitome who would greatly impress movie makers like Howard Hughes), Capone devoted one day of his two-day West-Coast stay to Roselli.

Earlier, in 1926, Roselli worked with Antonio Cornero Strollo (alias Tony Cornero, Tony Strollo, Tony Bender), the Coast's leading bootlegger. And with that connection, he became Abner "Longie" Zwillman's Western representative - including the job of protecting Jean Harlow after Zwillman took her from Howard Hughes. Roselli was adept at being someone else's delegate. As the Mob's Hollywood extension in the 1930s, Roselli was a key figure in organized crime's penetration into the expanding and dynamic life of California: its race tracks and gambling centers, its entertainment industry - including motion pictures, and its growing need for labor. The combination was heady for Johnny Roselli, and his star rose steadily - until the ITASE union scandal broke (the so-called Bioffe-Browne case). The man with the piercing eyes who had co-produced three movies, who had married a pretty young star, June Lang, and who always treated everyone at his table, was indicted, convicted, and sent to prison in 1944 on charges of extortion. A number of Roselli's Chicago associates were imprisoned with him, but Frank Nitti ended his own life rather than face the same fate.

On August 13, 1947, Roselli was released from jail, and took up residence in Las Vegas, gaining a reputation as the gambling capital's "head fixer." While in Vegas and on the West Coast, Roselli worked with Bugsy Siegel and, after Siegel's death, with Mickey Cohen, friend of both Siegel and Meyer Lansky. Roselli also was reputedly close to Joe Sica and Louis Tom Dragna, ultimately the power on the West Coast. Roselli had admitted to associations with Meyer Lansky and, of course, Moe Dalitz of the Desert Inn. And sometime in the 1950s, if not earlier, Roselli met Robert Maheu. According to the *New York Times*, Roselli's work in Las Vegas was not appreciated by the Syndicate, though no reasons were given. But with his public image intact, Roselli went to the West Coast, and waited for an opportunity to increase his value in Sam Giancana's eyes. The chance came in 1960, after his friend Maheu contacted him. What followed, of course, were the Maheu-Roselli-Giancana attempts in the early 60s on Fidel Castro.

The year 1963 was very important to Johnny Roselli: he was sponsored for membership in the Friars Club of Beverly Hills by two members, Dean Martin and Frank Sinatra. Four years later, he was in serious trouble. On October 20th, 1967, Johnny Roselli was under federal indictment for failing to register as an alien and notify the Immigration Service of his current address. Since such pressure from the Immigration and Naturalization branch of the Justice Department in a similar prosecution sometime later meant the F.B.I. was attempting to get Roselli to turn informer, we can guess that this earlier indictment had the same goal. In Los Angeles Federal District Court, Roselli refused to answer any questions put to him, citing the Fifth Amendment. In November, 1967, he travelled to Washington, D.C., and tried to use part of his Hughes-Harvey-Maheu leverage; his Washington friends, he said, included "two ex-F.B.I. agents who are now practicing attorneys...." Was Roselli squandering the Morgan-Maheu markers he held?

Regardless of influential friends, Roselli was not able to convince the government he was born on the 4th of July in Chicago, Illinois, and faced a year in prison, fines, and deportation.

For four years Johnny Roselli was sympathetic to his Friars Club brothers as they lost their money at gin rummy. Most of them were friends of his sponsor, Frank Sinatra: Harry Karl, millionaire shoe manufacturer who was married, at the time, to Debbie Reynolds; Phil Silvers; Zeppo Marx, whose wife Barbara would later marry Frank Sinatra; and others. The run of bad luck was incredible: on single game days, some of the players lost from \$5,000 to as much as \$50,000. One player had a ten-month losing streak totaling more than \$220,000. By the summer of 1967,

suspicious losers were being heard by a Los Angeles federal grand jury - and at least one witness admitted to operating what turned out to be the cheating system: ceiling peepholes through which the players' cards could be observed - and an electronic shock connection to a cooperative player's leg, so that the player could be signalled appropriately.

In December, 1967, five Friars Club members, including Johnny Roselli, were indicted on charges of participating in a violation of federal conspiracy laws. Roselli and his alleged fellow card-cheats had reportedly cleared nearly half-a-million dollars in less than a year.

Johnny Roselli always had connections; he always knew where to put in the fix. When the Frontier Hotel in Vegas was for sale, he acted as the middle man so that alleged Syndicate representatives from St. Louis and Detroit could buy in. According to the *New York Times*, Roselli received \$95,000 in a finder's fee when he acted as an intermediary for the Maheu-Morgan-Hughes-Hoffa-Dalitz operation. Now Roselli needed to cash in some of his markers; he had a \$50,000 legal bill resulting from the Friars Club affair. So he asked Howard Hughes' aides for a loan. The request possibly never got through the Mormon guards; Roselli was told he had been refused. The Senate Intelligence Committee report, however, indicated that some of Roselli's friends had not forgotten - or at least they went through the motions. Under threat of deportation, Roselli contacted Sheffield Edwards, the C.I.A.'s Office of Security Chief. Edwards interceded for Roselli, informing the F.B.I. that Roselli certainly wanted to cooperate with its Syndicate investigation, but Roselli feared that he would be killed if he talked. When Roselli was arrested for the Friar's Club cheating operation in 1967, he called his friend William K. Harvey, and Harvey went to the Company, asking it to interpose itself between Roselli and the Justice Department. But Roselli still lost.

In 1971, Roselli was out of prison, but the good or bad life had taken its toll. The Justice Department was again investigating, and Roselli's testimony was wanted on possible hidden ownership of the Vegas Frontier Hotel. To gain his testimony, the Immigration Service was again applying pressure. The Central Intelligence Agency indicated its interest in the case, but Roselli had few important markers left. According to the *New York Times*, Roselli's testimony brought indictments and convictions against the very St. Louis and Detroit figures in whose interests Roselli had originally acted years before (Anthony Zerilli of Detroit was included).

Roselli had spent too much time playing games with ex-F.B.I. agents, C.I.A. officers, Hughes' operators, electronics experts, and Washington lawyers. Johnny Roselli had finally become, according to the *Times*, a government informer. The newspaper's information on Roselli came, ironically, from Syndicate figures who were government informers. And those informers told the *Times* how Roselli died.

"Who'd want to kill an old man like me?" Roselli was said to have told a "Washington friend." A long-time associate, presumably an expert on C.I.A.-Syndicate relations (hidden from the rest of the citizens of the United States) because he was Roselli's partner in the Vegas Frontier Hotel gift shop, Joseph Breen, assured the *Times* that the Agency just would not do that. Anyway, Breen was reported to have said that, prior to Roselli's secret appearance before the Senate Intelligence Committee on April 23rd, 1976, Roselli checked with William K. Harvey, "his C.I.A. contact," according to the *Times*. Joseph Breen, Roselli's "closest friend," revealed that the C.I.A., through Harvey, told Roselli to talk: "...it was going to come out anyway." So, Breen reasoned, the Agency "would have no reason to kill him." Three months after that alleged advice, Johnny Roselli and William Harvey were both dead. Harvey's widow later reported two attempted break-ins after her husband died. He had cautioned her never to talk about his past life. But she did say, without explanation: "They're after his papers. But I burned everything."

According to two Syndicate informers, Johnny Roselli had lived a guarded life near the end, only going out with his sister and brother-in-law, with whom he lived following his release from jail in 1974. His only deviations from a consistent and careful pattern were those instances, according to the *New York Times*,

...he had dinner with Santos Trafficante Jr., boss of Mafia rackets in Florida and the one major underworld figure with whom Mr. Rosselli maintained close contact in his last years.

The two dined together for the last time...on July 16, 12 days before Mr. Rosselli was killed. *Authorities believe it was a member of the Trafficante organization who was able to lure Mr. Rosselli to his death.* (italics added; "Rosselli" spelling in original)

According to an underworld informant, Roselli went aboard a private boat with friends, one of whom was part of the Trafficante group, according to the *Times*. Roselli was asphyxiated, dismembered, and stuffed into a chain-weighted drum, which was then dumped into the bay. Ten days later, three fishermen saw it near a sandbar off a 28-foot-deep canal. Johnny Roselli's connection had been cut.

Like Giancana, Roselli in death was accused of a bid for power; like Giancana, Roselli was in no position to bid for that power. The stories were transparent attempts to convert both murders into internal "Mafia" hits. Everything in Giancana's and Roselli's lives argued against that implausible conclusion.

The universe, as an historical process, can sometimes be viewed as an ordered interfacing of synchronistic events. On January 11th, 1964, the *New York Times* reported that the "first legal test of the Government's shield of secrecy surrounding the death photographs of President Kennedy" had begun in Washington the day before. On that day, James B. Rhoads, Chief archivist of the National Archives, was served with an order "to appear in General Sessions Court" to answer New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison's demand that Kennedy assassination X-rays, photographs, and color transparencies be made available as evidence in the prosecution of Clay Shaw, whose trial was scheduled for January 21st on conspiracy charges in the murder of the president. On the same page as that article was another article concerning

...publicity surrounding a Federal grand jury investigation of Grant B. Cooper...[an attorney] representing clients in the Friars Club case, a card-cheating trial that drew much attention in this area [Los Angeles] earlier this year [1969].

Mr. Cooper had admitted to the Federal grand jury that he lied in court about the source of an unauthorized transcript of grand jury proceedings found in his possession during the Friars Club trial. He also admitted that he had had the transcripts of testimony given by four other witnesses.... But he declined to answer other questions about where the transcripts came from....

He was ordered this week to reappear before the grand jury....

Cooper was involved at the same time in a murder trial as "chief defense counsel." He and other defense lawyers in the pending trial had presented a motion to Superior Court Judge Herbert V. Walker for a continuance (a defense attempt to delay the murder trial). The motion, however, was denied, despite attorneys' argument that "recent publicity" concerning the grand jury investigation of Grant B. Cooper's alleged improprieties as defense lawyer in the Friars Club case were prejudicial to Cooper's other client. Cooper's second client was a "24-year-old Jordanian immigrant charged with the first-degree murder of Senator Robert Kennedy" - Sirhan Sirhan.

Bugsy Siegel had been Meyer Lansky's National Crime Syndicate delegate on the West Coast; when the Chicago mob tried to set up a race wire competing with the Syndicate's, however, Siegel sided with Chicago. Together with his expensive and flamboyant Flamingo venture, Siegel's intrusion in the race-wire controversy resulted, according to one source, in a concerned call from Lansky to Joe Adonis, who in turn called Jack Dragna; Dragna was to keep an eye on Siegel, watching Bugsy for suspected duplicity.

When the national crime organization had been founded, Benjamin Siegel had been sent to California to work with Mickey Cohen and Jack Dragna, the latter, until then, the undisputed lord of California organized crime. Jack Dragna had extensive associations throughout the country; for example, he worked well with reputed garment-manufacturing racketeers like Johnny Dioguardi, Jimmy Plumeri's nephew. Whatever Dragna discovered about Siegel as he watched him for Lansky and Adonis did not enhance Siegel's reputation: on June 20th, 1947, someone used a .30-caliber carbine on Lansky's former New York partner.

While Mickey Cohen was competing with John Fratianno for control of the Syndicate in Los Angeles, his lawyer, Russell Parsons, was writing a letter to probation authorities in Cleveland, Ohio, asserting that Cohen was rehabilitated, and that he should be freed of the encumbrance of probation. Parsons was at the time running for mayor of Los Angeles, and the exposure of his alleged Syndicate links helped to defeat him. According to one source, Parsons was a "brilliant" criminal lawyer who frequently defended organized crime figures, including Joseph Sica (a friend of Johnny Roselli). Russell Parsons was, according to Peter Noyes, a "bitter enemy" of Robert Kennedy, his enmity dating from the time of the McClellan Committee investigations when Robert Kennedy took a close look at Parsons' Syndicate links.

The first lawyer to defend Sirhan Sirhan was Russell Parsons.

After Jack Dragna died, the power structure of organized crime in California (in 1969) included: Nick Lacata; Louis Tom Dragna (Jack Dragna's nephew); Frank Bompensiero (an associate of John Fratianno and Dragna); Anthony Pinelli; John Roselli; Joseph Sica; and John Fratianno. Most of them had worked with Mickey Cohen at various times. Russell Parsons had been Cohen's lawyer; Grant C. Cooper was Roselli's lawyer. *Both Parsons and Cooper had been Sirhan Sirhan's attorneys.*



Why did the alleged lone assassin of Robert Kennedy have two lawyers who had intimate connections with the reputed power structure of the West Coast Syndicate? Why had he been defended by a lawyer who reputedly had a long-standing dislike of Robert Kennedy, and by another lawyer whose client, John Roselli, had powerful C.I.A. connections and who had been one of the targets (along with Sam Giancana, Carlos Marcello, and Jimmy Hoffa) of the Justice Department under Robert Kennedy?



## **CHAPTER 21**

### **"AND WE ARE ALL MORTAL (III)**

#### **A Type of Mass Adolescence**

On September 17th, 1976, the United States House of Representatives passed a resolution establishing the House Select Committee on Assassinations. Four days later on September 21st, 1976, Orlando Letelier, former Chilean government official, was assassinated while riding in a car in the streets of Washington, D.C.; Ronnie Moffet, a co-worker, was also murdered in the same explosion. Suspected of being involved in the assassination was Orlando Bosch, a friend of Frank Sturgis and an intimate of the Carlos Bringuier circle in New Orleans; later, Bosch was identified as a leader of the Coru and Condor Cuban-exile organizations in the Miami area. Earlier, Orlando Bosch had taken credit for an "aerial assassination attempt" against Fidel Castro on November 20th, 1964, and was at the time a leader of MIRR and an associate of Manuel Gil (of INCA) who had arranged the Oswald- Bringuier radio "debate" in New Orleans. Rolando Masferrer was reported to have been on Bosch's hit list; later, Masferrer was blown up while in his car. Associated with a half-dozen groups which conducted clandestine terrorist raids on Castro's Cuba in the 1960s, Bosch was also reportedly a member of the C.I.A.'s secret Cuban-exile "Operation Forty," which contained a special domestic assassination squad. Suspected, along with Bosch, in the Moffett- Letelier assassination was Luis Posada Carilles, associate of the Alpha-66 leader Antonio Veciana in a number of earlier attempts on the life of Fidel Castro.

It seemed easier to assassinate government and national leaders, domestic and foreign, in Dallas, Memphis, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C., than in Havana, Cuba.

On December 1st, 1976, Rose Styron, a poet, journalist, and a member of the Board of Amnesty International, told an audience at the Hartford Seminary Foundation that "ninety percent of the terrorism conducted in South America is not from guerillas, but rather sanctioned by military-backed governments." She noted that at least some of the repression in the southern hemisphere had been sponsored by the United States, but that there seemed to be "a new sense of caring developing." She described the development of "death squads" and "repressive secret-police organizations" either organized by Latin American governments or protected by them; "Chile and Argentina are among the worst countries in the category of repression of human rights," she said. "One person, who served in the Allende regime in Chile, was killed in Washington, D.C., when his car exploded. ...Orlando Letelier, a professor at American University." Styron suspected agents of the Chilean DINA were responsible.

On December 16th, 1976, Dr. Jose Szapocznic, Director of Research and Evaluation at the University of Miami's Spanish Family Guidance Clinic ("Encuentro"), issued a summary of his studies in the behavior of immigrant Cuban groups. According to Dr. Szapocznic, the families of Cuban exiles were going through "a type of mass adolescence" which had precipitated a sharp rise in "emotional disturbances in the Latin community" in and around Miami. "In general, mental health problems have been getting worse..., and will continue to get worse for maybe two or three more years." According to his research results, the ordinary acculturation problems of immigrants were magnified in the Cuban community; the emotional crises were most easily observed in "middle-aged mothers and teen-aged sons," said Dr. Szapocznic. The immigrant Cuban mothers were the least-acculturated of any family members, yet they were also the "cultural bridge" in each family, "trying to maintain a balance between traditional Cuban values and the Americanized, individualized tendencies of their children," he said. Since the Cuban sons acculturated the most, "an exaggerated conflict between mother and son" was created. "Often, the father is left out of the picture, and it becomes very similar to a one-parent family - a very unhealthy situation," Szapocznic commented. At Jackson Memorial Hospital's Crisis Intervention Center, the behavioral-research scientist studied more than 700 cases, and found the greatest incidence of "certain emotional problems" were occurring among "young Latin males and middle-aged females." The doctor pointed out that drug-taking among the women was rising at the same rate as the level of stress in the community.

Other earlier indications suggested a serious regional problem had developed; Dade and Broward Counties had always been known for their rather high levels of crime: Dade County, for example, has experienced a higher statistical incidence of personal crimes at full moon than at any other time in a given twenty- eight- day period. Family dislocation, drug abuse, lunatic reaction, street crime: not a positive image for the proud Cuban people. But there was more.

Manuel Artime announced his disgust with American softness toward Castro's Cuba in 1976; he demanded the return of the Bay of Pigs Brigade battle-flag replica which was displayed in the Kennedy Museum in Washington; and he warned the Cuban-exile organizations would again wage their war on Castro. Orlando Bosch announced *his* war had begun again on Castro and his supporters in the southern hemisphere. Not only was the Artime-Bosch "war" carried on in Latin America; its battles were fought in the streets of "Little Havana," Miami, and Miami Beach, and the incidents of shooting and bombing showed a frightening escalation. Not only was it dangerous to be a Castro supporter; it was equally dangerous to preach moderation, oppose assassination, even voice concern; former anti-Castro Cubans fought each other daily by 1977.

According to Hank Messick, a new minority group - the Cuban exile community - was "seeking the easy way to wealth and power"; federal authorities, with their characteristic flair for looking in the rear-view mirror of history and swerving to avoid a tree they had already passed, dubbed the new crime organization the "Cuban Mafia." Hundreds of pounds of cocaine and heroin were confiscated in the years from 1969 through 1977, and arrests piled up: in January, 1972, for example, eight members of a Cuban-Puerto Rican ring were arrested by narcotics agents who found 178 pounds of heroin stuffed into suitcases the group was attempting to transport. By 1970, Cuban exiles scattered all over the world had, according to several government sources, joined together and established a world drug-traffic organization, sanctioned by the international crime Syndicate. According to several sources, the Cuban narcotics structure originally handled cocaine, but the Syndicate turned over much of its heroin business to the new Cuban venture. Talk of "dope dictators" began to surface. Many Latin American rulers were now allegedly supported by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and supplied with Vietnam-style strike forces which would protect the dictators' narcotics traffic but burn out the people's drug crops (now seen as supportive of "Communist" insurgency- groups). And all over the Americas, a Cuban network of hitmen and distributors was growing, with its leadership originally trained by the Central Intelligence Agency.

We had created a terrible creature.

In May, 1976, Senator Eastland's Judiciary subcommittee on Internal Security took closed-door testimony on the rise of Cuban terrorist activities, hoping, I suppose, to find evidence of pro-Castro groups operating in the Miami area which the subcommittee could have exposed with appropriate anti-Communist/ anti-Castro fervor. The Eastland subcommittee allegedly found some - but it also found an incredible number of anti-Castro organizations which were too embarrassing to report on. The testimony was withheld until August 22nd, 1976, two weeks following the Johnny Roselli murder: an antidote to the disturbing "news" that the C.I.A. had used "Cuban exiles in Florida and U.S. gangsters to kill Castro."

What the Eastland Committee found was more than fifty various Cuban-exile groups in Miami, many engaged in violent and murderous plots both locally and in Cuba, Mexico, and Central and South America. Understandably, Senator Eastland would not want that kind of information spread around; what did violent anti-Castro/ Cuban- exile conspiracies and operations have to do with the fight against Communism?

According to the UPI, Eastland had heard testimony from Lt. Thomas Lyons, Dade County Public Safety Department, and from Paul J. Diaz of the Department's "organized crime, terrorist, and security unit." What did any relationship between organized crime and terrorism by Cuban exiles have to do with "internal security"?, Senator Eastland must have wondered. The two specialists in Dade County mayhem told of their difficulties in tracking down "terrorist elements in the greater Miami area."

From the end of 1974 through May of 1976, approximately one hundred bombings and at least five known murders were attributed to anti-Castro Cuban groups in the Miami area. More than one bombing a week was being recorded over a twenty-month period. On April 8th, 1976, anti-Castro terrorists attacked Cuban fishing boats off Florida. The fishermen were fired upon, then one of their boats was rammed and sank; a crewman died of the wounds he sustained. The F.B.I. was conducting another of its "intensive" investigations into the unprovoked attack as a "possible violation of the neutrality act." On May 1st, 1976, Emilio Milian, a Cuban-American radio commentator in Miami, turned on his car's ignition and had both of his legs blown off in the resulting explosion. Milian had been opposed to Cuban-exile terrorism. But the F.B.I. had been galvanized into action; a "joint group

of about 50 F.B.I. agents and 50 local investigators" was at work, and on May 8th, 1976, three arrests were announced. On May 20th, Rolando Otero Hernandez, with six bombings allegedly to his credit, was apprehended at the Miami International Airport by the Bureau. The F.B.I. was "eager" to get its hands on Otero, since he had been charged with placing an explosive device outside of the F.B.I. headquarters in Miami which damaged both the Bureau's office and its pride. On May 30th, Jesus Gonzalez Cartas was found dead in an isolated area just outside of the Everglades. The slaying of the Batista- regime gang leader from Havana was puzzling, according to authorities, because it had the earmarks of a "gangland slaying," but was thought by several sources to have "political overtones."

Testifying in his own defense in U.S. District Court in Jacksonville, Florida, Rolando Otero Hernandez admitted he was trained in the use of explosives by E. Howard Hunt. Otero maintained that Hunt was his instructor during preparations for the Bay of Pigs invasion. But Otero denied having anything to do with the rash of bombings in the Miami area. Otero said he had spent eighteen months in a Cuban prison after the Bay of Pigs, and had come to America in 1959. His attorney, Thomas Almon, commented that he perceived "political overtones" to the Otero prosecution, but the UPI report out of Jacksonville did not indicate whether Otero's defense lawyer had given any reason for his observation. One wonders whether the Miami-area Cuban community would be able to do anything in the future which would not deafen us with its politics.

On October 6th, 1976, the sabotage of a Cuban Airlines DC-8 resulted in the death of 73 passengers, including all 16 members of Cuba's national championship fencing team. The plane, en route from Havana to Jamaica, went down in the Caribbean just off Barbados after only twenty minutes in the air, having suffered an "inflight explosion." By October 17th, 1976, Orlando Bosch's associates, Herman Ricardo, Freddy Lugo, Oleg Gueton Rodrigues, Celsa Toledo, Francisco Nunez, and Antonio Veciana's co-conspirator, Luis Posada Carilles, were named as suspects in the Cuban airliner's sabotage. The Associated Press on November 4th, 1976, reported that a Caracas, Venezuela newspaper had reported two Venezuelan photographers had confessed; their confessions implicated a Cuban-exile terrorist, Orlando Bosch, and a "Cuban-born Venezuelan." By the end of 1976, evidence was piling up that Bosch was one of the leaders of an international organization of Cuban exiles engaged in assassination-for-hire; among others, the organization worked for the Chilean DINA.

On October 14th, 1976, a "special squad of Dade County homicide detectives investigating Cuban terrorist activities" arrested six members of the Miami-based terrorist group called the Pragmatistas. Two more Cuban exiles, wanted for the murder of Luciano Nieves in a hospital parking lot on February 21st, 1975, were still at large; the motive given for the murder was probably the saddest commentary on the whole Cuban exile affair: Nieves, a former officer in Fidel Castro's army, was murdered three days after announcing he intended to challenge Castro in a free Cuban election. One hopes that someone wept the night of February 21st, 1975, for an authentic hero of the anti-Castro Cuban movement.

The butchery of the anti-Castro Cuban exiles by their own mindless terrorists opened the new year. On January 7th, 1977, Juan Jose Peruyero, the former president of the Bay of Pigs Invasion Brigade Veterans' Association, was shot to death by "unidentified assailants," the *New York Times* reported from Miami. The respected Cuban leader was the *seventh exile leader in three years* to be assassinated in what Miami police believed were "politically motivated assassinations." Peruyero was a close friend of Emilio Milian, the Cuban commentator who had urged moderation - and had lost his legs. Almost to reassure us, the *Times* reported that Peruyero was an "anti-Communist" and had organized a number of commando raids against Cuban coastal installations and ships. Peruyero was also credited with getting the Bay of Pigs replica flag returned to Miami from the Kennedy Museum in Washington.

Juan Jose Peruyero's death was reported to the nation on January 8th, 1977.

### **William D. Pawley**

At eighteen, William D. Pawley began working for an export company selling diving suits to pearl divers from Venezuela. From that exotic beginning, Pawley never gave up his interest in what became the Caribbean Complex, that vast and sprawling interlace of Latin American dictators, Caribbean exploiters, Washington lobbyists, intelligence-gatherers, and anti-Castro obsessions. Pawley sold old Haitian ships to the United States during World War I; bought and sold land during the 1920s in the Florida land boom; organized airline services in Cuba; owned the Havana Bus Company in pre-Castro's Cuba; developed the China National Aviation Corporation, an "intelligence- oriented" airline; in the 30s, organized the "Flying Tigers," the volunteer air force which fought against the Japanese before Pearl Harbor; was an ambassador to Cuba, Peru, and Brazil; and, according to the *New York Times*, took on certain "special assignments" as an American representative



to South American and European meetings and missions. When the "Cuba Lobby" launched its attack against William A. Wieland and Roy Rubottom, two State Department employees the Senate Internal Security subcommittee accused of blocking the better judgment of American intelligence officers who had called Fidel Castro a Communist, William D. Pawley joined in the attack, becoming a crucial witness against Wieland.

Pawley was said to have urged President Eisenhower to give his support to Fulgencio Batista against Castro in the late 1950s. According to the *New York Times*, Pawley had gone on a secret assignment late in 1958 attempting to block Castro's take-over. In 1961, Pawley told Senate probers that he had traveled to Cuba just three weeks before Castro's revolution was a success, trying for a so-called "care-taker" government neither "anti-Batista" nor "anti-Castro" (whatever that meant). He failed, of course. Pawley was also an associate of Allen Dulles, and worked with the C.I.A. in the recruitment of Cuban exiles in Miami in preparation for the Bay of Pigs invasion. During his lobbying days, he supported the interests of Trujillo and the Somozas, and, as Peter Dale Scott has pointed out, Pawley had business dealings which "overlapped with those of the Teamster- Murchison-Miami Cuban network." According to the *Times*, Pawley periodically held government positions, and was a prominent Republican Party member and fund-raiser. Pawley raised more than \$150,000 for Eisenhower's 1952 and 1956 campaigns. He also raised in excess of \$100,000 for Nixon's 1960 campaign. Pawley was reportedly close to Richard Nixon throughout the late '50s and early '60s. As a member of the Caribbean Complex, Pawley helped create the terrible creature of the assassination-ridden "Little Havana," and would have been of important help in untangling a number of knots in the threads that wove together on November 22nd, 1963.

More than 80 years old, and confined to his bed for over a year, Pawley had reportedly been suffering from certain "nervous disorders." At his Sunset Island, Miami Beach home on January 7th, 1977 - the same day Juan Jose Peruyero was murdered by unknown persons in Miami - William D. Pawley shot himself to death. His note said that "the pain is more than I can bear."

William D. Pawley's death was reported to the nation on January 8th, 1977.

**Frank Bompensiero**

Sam Giancana was murdered with a .22 automatic pistol; within two years of his death, *at least twenty-three murders had been recorded* attributable to hits accomplished with a .22 automatic pistol. What made the .22 murders something more than a two-year bizarre coincidence was that every one of the victims had incurred the displeasure of the Syndicate, and many were associated with intelligence- gathering or informing. According to Nicolas Gage, *all* of the victims belonged to a "nationwide group" of potential witnesses and Bureau informers. As *Time* magazine pointed out on April 18th, 1977, the C.I.A. had preferred the .22 as a personal weapon since the Office of Strategic Services developed the silencer-equipped .22 automatic pistol during the Second World War. The only production-model handgun "effectively silenced," it became the favorite of C.I.A. operatives.

But the identity of the weapon is too obvious: though the Agency has made a few mistakes in the past, let us say, it is nearly inconceivable that anyone directly associated with the C.I.A. would use the Company's favorite equalizer - except, perhaps, the Syndicate. But would the organization which worked so closely (and for so long) with the Agency then use the Agency's own weapon on informers and malcontents? Again, it seemed unlikely. Some further information helped point to which group has been using the .22 automatic.

*Time* reported that the F.B.I. suspected a professional gang operating coast- to- coast. Two of the .22 weapons, *thrown away after the killings* almost in defiance of the police, were traced by authorities to a Miami, Florida, sporting- goods store. The Miami connection suggested that the same group of Cuban exiles now suspected of having become hired assassins for the DINA and other Latin-American secret police organizations was also handling someone's Syndicate contracts - but of a special kind: informants, intelligence-gatherers, and potential witnesses. Several of the murder victims had direct links to the New Jersey Syndicate operation; several were associated with loan-sharking; and several were active in the sports world and sports gambling: a perservering investigator could come up with some meaningful patterns overlaying the basic informant- witness grid. Given the type of weapon, the source of two of those weapons, and the fact that one of the victims (if not the *first*) was Sam Giancana, the evidence seems to suggest the assassins were Cuban members of organized crime with some connection to the intelligence world, possibly Cuban exiles who were trained for the Bay of Pigs or who were later instructed during the Agency's "secret war" on Castro.

Frank Bompensiero has been on a number of California Syndicate power-structure lists; but Ed Reid reported that Bompensiero's importance in the West Coast mob hierarchy was "a matter of debate" by law authorities. Whether his appearance on the hierarchical police charts was accurate or not, Bompensiero was on local police lists as the leader of the San Deigo Mafia; he numbered among his close friends John Fratianno (with whom he had a number of important business associations), Louis Tom Dragna, and Johnny Roselli. The "Bomp" took a walk every day from his home to a public telephone booth, according to *Time*, which he used a bug-free office. He would take with him his coded records of loan-shark payments and outstanding debts. But his notebook also contained telephone numbers which were eventually traced to other public telephones throughout California and Nevada: at regular times, Bompensiero called one number in San Francisco to reach John Fratianno, and another number in Las Vegas to reach Tony Spilotro (the worlds of the Syndicate and the Kennedy-Castro-Hoffa story are very small indeed). From 1966 on, Bompensiero informed for the F.B.I., but would not give intelligence concerning a group of cities, including Las Vegas, St. Louis, Detroit, and New York. Bompensiero mistrusted the agents in those cities, fearful they might leak his informer status to Syndicate friends. In August, 1977, Bureau Director Clarence H. Kelley confirmed that an "internal" investigation of Las Vegas field office was being conducted into allegations that F.B.I. field agents were accepting meals, complimentary casino show tickets, casino hotel accommodations, and "other gratuities" from the owners and managers of the Vegas gambling establishments. The *Los Angeles Times* reported on August 9th, 1977, that Vegas Bureau agents were the target of complaints about their "becoming cozy" with Syndicate figures. Bompensiero, therefore, seems to have known what he was doing. F.B.I. agent Jack Armstrong, the Bump's Bureau "control," honored the San Diego don's exclusions, and in return received inside information from Bompensiero on nationwide Mafia and Syndicate operations.

Sometime between July 28th, 1976 and February 10th, 1977, two Syndicate informers gave federal authorities information on the Johnny Roselli murder which implicated Santo Trafficante or someone in the Trafficante organization. One of those F.B.I. informers was still alive (as far as I know) as of December, 1977, and his name has not been made public; the other is dead. Frank Bompensiero, just before 8 p.m., the evening of February 10th, 1977, walked to his public telephone booth in order to send or receive a message. The person on the other end of the line most probably set up the "Bump." The most "consequential figure in the Mob hierarchy" to be an F.B.I. informant - and the Syndicate man who gave the Bureau information on the murder of Johnny Roselli - was shot in

the neck, near the spine, by a .22 bullet. While he lay on the street, the gun was brought close to his right ear and fired a second time.

On February 10th, 1977, Frank Bompensiero was murdered; two weeks later, on February 25th, 1977, the story he helped to break - the Roselli murder revelation concerning Santo Trafficante - appeared in the *New York Times*. Nineteen days later, Santo Trafficante appeared before the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

### **Santo Trafficante, Jr.**

On Wednesday, March 16th, 1977, Santo Trafficante, Jr., F.B.I. identification number 482531B, refused to answer any questions put to him by House Committee counsel: "I refuse to answer that question pursuant to my constitutional rights under the First, Fourth, Fifth, and Fourteenth Amendments."

The Trafficante involvement in the Caribbean Complex began no later than 1933, when Meyer Lansky concluded a deal with dictator Fulgencio Batista. Santo Trafficante, Sr., would develop Cuba's tourism; Lansky would open up gambling casinos to which the tourists would flock; Batista would get sizeable cuts of both the tourism and gambling profits; and certain key members of organized crime would be included in the action, reportedly Moe Dalitz, allegedly representing the Great Lakes Organization, and Santo Trafficante, Sr., who would ultimately hold co-power with Carlos Marcello in the "Southern Tier." Batista would keep a protective eye on the Syndicate's heroin traffic, which the Trafficante family would allegedly operate. For the Cuban Connection, Miami would be Lansky's home base; Tampa would be the Trafficantes' headquarters. Several sources have given Meyer Lansky credit for establishing the Trafficante organization in Florida; according to two crime investigators, Lansky was the mentor of both father and son in the family's rise to power.

Trafficante reputedly was managing Lansky's Miami and Havana interests in the 1940s; the Havana enterprises grew so prodigiously, in fact, the senior Trafficante allegedly gave his Havana operations to his son Santo; Santo Trafficante, Jr., therefore inherited his position as a reputed Batista-allied gambling and narcotics overseer and his role as Lansky partner and delegate from his father. With connections in Corsica and Sicily, the younger Trafficante was reputedly the director of large shipments of drugs from European ports through Florida into the major cities of America, including New Orleans and Dallas. Trafficante would be

the logical person to whom his old Cuban and Corsican employees would turn when the Cuban-exile organization around the world (after the Bay of Pigs) began to look for a connection to move its cocaine (and heroin). For two decades, Luciano, Trafficante, and Lansky reportedly ran heroin and gambling money out of Cuba and into Miami, Tampa, and other Gulf Coast cities.

Trafficante's pre-eminence cannot be over-estimated. The story that Norman Rothman (Trafficante's casino associate) acted as a contact when the C.I.A. began its recruitment of alleged Syndicate figures highlighted the importance of Trafficante in the negotiations. Louis J. McWillie and Jack Ruby met at the Rothman/ Lansky/ Trafficante Tropicana. Rothman reportedly consulted Trafficante, Sam Mannarino, and Johnny Roselli; Rothman allegedly sent a delegate to Frank Sturgis, Carlos Prio's associate, to enlist him in an anti-Castro assassination plot. If the contacts were made in this way, we have Lansky's representative Rothman consulting Trafficante (and Trafficante's associate, Mannarino) and Johnny Roselli (the group's C.I.A. connection through Robert Maheu).

Earlier, in 1954, when Santo Sr., died, Santo Trafficante, Jr., allegedly became the power in Florida and in the Gulf, his word extending to Carlos Marcello's territory to the West. On October 24, 1957, Albert Anastasia and Trafficante reportedly had a meeting widely believed to have been the set-up for Anastasia's murder engineered by Lansky. But whether or not Trafficante had anything to do with the Anastasia hit, his loyalty was being tested, and Trafficante was a *mafioso* of the old school: a man of honor. The often-told story of Trafficante's blood-oath of allegiance to Meyer Lansky, witnessed by Charles ("The Blade") Tourine, Trafficante's partner, has been told only from Lansky's point of view; Trafficante's oath was, again, a part of a consistent pattern of old-world behavior. Of course, loyalty and honor do not preclude practicality. The Joe Profaci- Trafficante alliance was also a clue to Trafficante's power: Profaci was an intimate associate of Meyer Lansky, and so this alleged Syndicate triangulation was a potent combination greater than the sum of its parts, with important national leverage for Trafficante.

Several sources have recorded the \$250,000 Lansky bribe to Carlos Prio Socarras (elected in 1948 after Roosevelt's representative, Meyer Lansky, had prevailed upon Batista to hold free elections) to allow Fulgencio Batista to return to Cuba. Prio was president of Cuba during one of the most corrupt regimes in that country's history; he was supported by Lansky; and, when he left Cuba, he took up residence in Lansky- Trafficante territory, allegedly dealing with Lansky-Trafficante associates.

**Loran Eugene Hall**

When Trafficante was ejected by Castro on July 8th, 1959, he was "joined" by mercenary Loran Eugene Hall and Henry Savaarda, formerly of the Capri. Lewis J. McWillie, who worked for Rothman, Lansky, and Trafficante at the Tropicana, stayed on in Cuba, and in May, 1960, moved to the Capri, also allegedly owned by Lansky and Trafficante's associate, Charles Tourine. The simultaneous expulsion of Loran Eugene Hall and Trafficante suggested some closer relation between the anti-Castro mercenary and the anti-Castro Havana boss not yet fully explored; certainly Hall had done yeoman service for someone whenever the several Kennedy assassination investigations seemed about to explore the Caribbean Complex's possible complicity in either the Kennedy murder or the subsequent cover-up; both the F.B.I. and the Garrison staff were dazzled by Hall's disinformation. And Hall's known connection to several groups cooperating in their anti-Castro plotting has been well-documented.

On October 3rd, 1977, in an interview with Hall published in the *Village Voice* by writer Dick Russell, it was reported that Loran Eugene Hall maintained he had spent time in a Castro prison with Santo Trafficante. But the story sounded suspiciously like a Hall plant to implicate Trafficante in a Castro-Trafficante-did-it scenario: Russell cited the C.I.A. document which alleged that someone named "Santos" had been imprisoned by Castro and, while there, was visited by an "American gangster-type named Ruby." The document's source also alleged that this "Santos" was "paying Castro for his rather luxurious and definitely non-prisonlike accommodations...." In 1964, this story would have been much less ominous than it now seemed; in 1977, with Loran Eugene Hall's dubious corroboration, it still looked like what it was: a reputed Syndicate figure who was allegedly buying off someone for more- than- ordinary incarceration conditions - something that happened often enough in the United States.

Hall admitted to Russell that he had gone to Havana in 1959, and had worked at the *Lansky- Trafficante Capri casino*; he was ejected, of course, with Trafficante (and Savaarda of the Capri) on July 8th, 1959. Hall also alleged he had a continuing relationship with Trafficante and his organization through 1963, though this admission may be disinformation intended to implicate Roselli (dead), Giancana (dead), and Trafficante (silent) in a 1963 anti-Castro plot no one else can corroborate. According to Dick Russell, the "new" story which Hall told was one which had already appeared in a 1975 article in *Soldier of Fortune* magazine, but in that version it contained neither Hall nor a Syndicate assassination plot. The *Soldier*

of Fortune article recounted an alleged plan called "Operation Red Cross," which was to be covered as it happened by a Life magazine writer (Richard Billings) and a photographer. In its "original" form, two Soviet "colonels" were about to defect and were willing to testify (perhaps to some Congressional "Internal Security" committee?) that Soviet missiles were still in place in Cuba, a familiar right-wing argument for accusing John F. Kennedy of "betrayal." William D. Pawley, then retired U.S. Ambassador to Cuba and an ally of the "Cuba Lobby," allegedly agreed to allow his yacht be used in the "rescue." According to Hall, the operation was really a Trafficante- Roselli- Giancana assassination attempt, but its operational side was to be handled by a Cuban exile named Eddie Bayo (who would lead nine other Cubans in the attack) and John Martino, described by Russell as a reputed "fringe Mob figure." The Soviet-colonel story was "really" a cover which Pawley allegedly accepted, and on June 9th, 1963, according to Hall, the Bayo group left the Pawley yacht, headed for the coast of Cuba, and disappeared. Russell then retold the Jack Anderson story of the alleged Roselli "confession" which implicated Trafficante and his "Cubans," and asked a rhetorical question: could Roselli have meant the Operation Red Cross-Bayo group? It was a story hardly calculated to increase our rather low esteem for Russell's source.

The one figure who can be checked in this Loran Hall adventure story is John Martino, and knowledge of his associations re-enforces the judgment that listening to Loran Eugene Hall will send any Kennedy assassination investigator down a greased slide to chaos. John Martino was associated in 1964 with a series of contradictory and false "Oswald" stories which came out of the Sturgis-Buchanan group in Miami; the F.B.I. did an (uncharacteristically) exhaustive job of tracking the stories back-and-forth between various members of the group: (1) Sturgis's I.A.B. - the International Anti-Communist Brigade, (2) Pedro Diaz Lanz, the friend of Sturgis who testified before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, (3) Eduardo Diaz Lanz, Pedro's brother, (4) Jim and Jerry Buchanan, associates of Sturgis, (5) John Martino and his associates, and (6) Nathaniel Weyl. The F.B.I. agent who investigated the group's "Oswald" stories called its members "agitators," and found that their basic story, which was an alleged Oswald demonstration in a Miami park (known as the haunt of mercenaries and anti-Castro Cubans), simply never took place. But the Sturgis- Buchanan- Weyl- Martino "Oswald" stories kept the "Castro-did-it" pot boiling for the right-wing mercenaries in the Miami area, and though the stories were crude efforts, they were of some minor use in the post- assassination cover-up; at least they kept the F.B.I. busy in Miami. Weyl, Martino's friend, was reportedly an O.S.S. veteran, and had claimed he was in the same Communist cell as Alger Hiss; Weyl had even been

given some of the credit for "exposing" Hiss. Weyl's record suggested that he was a right-wing intelligence double-agent. His friend, John Martino, had been called Castro's most famous prisoner; he was arrested in Havana, in 1959, after allegedly landing a plane on a Cuban highway while attempting a clandestine entry into the country. As early as 1953, John Martino had charged Fidel Castro with being a Communist; after the assassination, he was the source of several inflammatory Castro-Oswald rumors. A number of similarly-named persons figure in the Castro-Kennedy- Hoffa story; for example, someone called John Martin or Juan Martin was active among anti-Castro Cubans in Dallas, and was known to Sylvia Odio. Hall's story cannot be checked with John Martino; he died, allegedly of a heart attack, in 1975. Loran Eugene Hall's Pawley- Operation Red Cross story is heavily- weighted with right-wing, anti-Communist, Sturgis-Buchanan-Weyl ballast. Its motivation could be an obvious one: to confuse the Kennedy investigation and increase suspicion of Trafficante - or at least increase the pressure on Trafficante (and others still alive) to remain silent. Congressional investigators *should* explore Hall's known relations to the Caribbean Complex and its anti-Castro operations, of course; more than that and they will be abetting noise pollution.

The House Select Committee attempted to elicit testimony from Loran Eugene Hall about his Trafficante connection; Hall refused, however, to answer any questions put to him on June 7th, 1977. On October 5th, 1977, Hall returned to the Committee which heard his testimony in a closed session.

### **Santo Trafficante and the House Select Committee**

The ejection of the Syndicate from Cuba was, oddly enough, a goad to inventiveness and to the growth of international organized crime. Lansky had moved unorganized crime into organization; from murder, extortion, and petty rackets, into major gambling, profit-skimming, and narcotics activities; and, from these operations, into real estate, banking, and investment. Just as the multi-national corporations found it more profitable to become a-national, so also Lansky envisioned the possibilities of "belonging" to no country but finding havens in many. The operations to exploit the Bahamas, England, and, back "home," the "undeveloped" Mediterranean and Near East, were already under way when Fidel Castro booted out the dicers and the money-changers (as Ralph Salerno has suggested, Castro was a rather "puritanical" revolutionary leader).



Lansky and Trafficante had been developing the Caribbean- Bahamaian territories in the late '50s; by 1962, according to Ed Reid, the Caribbean was a Trafficante-Lansky sea divided into two parts: the "northern regions," controlled by the "Groves enterprises" centered in the Bahamas (the further planning for which might have occurred at the La Costa meeting of Dalitz, Dorfman, Mrs. Hoffa, and others); and, to the south, the islands allegedly controlled by Ed Levinson, Clifford Jones, and their associates. Reid recorded that in 1962, Sam Giancana made overtures for establishing proprietaries in the Dominican Republic and in Jamaica, possibly feeling his earlier work with the Lansky- Trafficante group against Fidel Castro qualified him for a share of the exploitation possibilities. He was discouraged.

Trafficante's former Cuban and French-Corsican workers had remained in Cuba (as had the people who worked for the Plumeri- Granello- Bufalino-Levine group). McWillie had held important posts in the Havana casino structure with both Lansky and Trafficante. Jack Ruby, whose whole history suggested he was a Lansky- Trafficante operative, visited McWillie at least twice in 1959, and was suspected of visiting Cuba as late as 1962 by Warren Commission counsel (and, in some sources, as late as 1963). Ruby's known triplicity must, therefore, be taken into account when discussing his Trafficante connections. Mike McLaney, Lansky's associate and delegate, purchased the National Casino from Moe Dalitz, Lansky's alleged partner, just three weeks before Castro gained power, and stayed on for eighteen months - according to one source, hoping to become Castro's gambling czar. Frank Sturgis had been commissioned to oversee the casinos for Castro's Ministry of Games, and therefore worked with McWillie, Trafficante, and McLaney, as Sturgis has admitted previously (and again in our interview with him on November 22nd, 1976). At least one of the McLaney brothers knew Jack Ruby; William McLaney worked with Lewis McWillie at the Tropicana in Havana, and, as of 1975, Louis McWillie was reported to be working for Mike McLaney at the McLaney casino in Haiti (where Lansky and George de Mohrenschildt both negotiated for a casino - though no evidence presently links the two efforts as one). McLaney also worked with the C.I.A., according to several sources, while in Cuba; later, with Lansky, he involved himself in Caribbean and Bahamian exploitation, politics, and, according to one source, assassination attempts.

McWillie, McLaney, Trafficante's (and Plumeri's) former casino workers, and Frank Sturgis, might have been the group organized as an "intelligence" network which Sturgis was supposed to have developed before he "defected." Part of this "stay-behind" group was utilized by the C.I.A.- Plumeri- Granello- Bufalino

operation. Both Sturgis's and the Plumeri's groups may have been working with the AMBLOOD and Veciana networks. Sturgis's stories about Ruby meeting with revolutionary Cuban leaders to exchange guns for drugs - and, incidentally, plan the death of Kennedy - sound like crude covers for what may have been a cocaine operation involving Sturgis's and Trafficante's friends in Cuba, with Jack Ruby acting as a contact. Stories of a Castro- Trafficante "deal" have been in circulation for some time and can probably be discounted in the same ways the Oswald-Castro and Ruby-Castro stories have been dismissed: (1) by examining the sources of the stories (usually interested and biased, like Frank Sturgis, Prio's associate), and (2) for lack of evidence. But official proof does suggest that someone in Cuba, with or without Castro's blessing, was moving drugs. In the autumn of 1962, New York City narcotics agents confiscated more alleged Cuban cocaine than in the whole year of 1961; Ed Reid indicated that the cocaine had come through the "well-used pipelines" of Trafficante's organization in Tampa. With McWillie and McLaney (at least for awhile) still operating in Cuba, and Trafficante's Cuban and French-Corsican friends still available, Frank Sturgis could have helped move the "snow" along. Recall the many local and federal arrests in New York and Florida of the anti-Castro Cubans who were dealing in cocaine for organized crime after the Bay of Pigs and Kennedy's assassination; at least one investigator has suggested that Trafficante's 1968 visit to the Near East, with stops at Singapore, Hong Kong, and Vietnam, constituted a narcotics life-line. Trafficante has recently been linked to the reputed "Mafia" Galente family in New York in what was believed by some investigators to be a new operation to import Asian drugs.

The questions put to Santo Trafficante by the House Select Committee on Assassinations revealed more about the Committee and its counsel than it did about Trafficante. Chairperson Stokes admitted the Committee already knew that Trafficante would refuse to answer - and it has been suggested, not uncharitably, that the Committee needed a quick media-transfusion if it were to stay alive.

Fifteen questions were asked of Trafficante; they fell into four groups. Trafficante was questioned about his knowledge of (1) C.I.A.-"Mafia" assassination plots, in particular, the Maheu- Roselli- Giancana- Trafficante- Agency attempts against Castro; (2) militant anti-Communist, right-wing, anti-Castro groups; (3) Jack Ruby (and a Ruby connection with Trafficante's stay in a Cuban prison); and (4) the Kennedy assassination. The Committee had also subpoenaed Trafficante's documents "from June 1955 to December 1964" relating to the matters about which he was questioned. He neither answered any questions nor brought any documents. At the end of the questioning, Chairperson Stokes told Trafficante he was vulnerable to contempt-of-Congress citations (Trafficante was earlier asked if he

feared for his life); the Committee chairperson also indicated that Trafficante might be recalled as a witness. Then Stokes told him he could leave. But Santo Trafficante remained silent. As he held no real property in his own name, he gave only his name to the Committee.

On November 22nd, 1976, Frank Sturgis explained to us the difference between himself (and Gordon Liddy) and people like John Dean and James McCord. "You don't shoot off at the mouth in intelligence work," he said. "It's like...like the Mafia's *omerta*."

Santo Trafficante, a man of his word, a *mafioso* treated with respect by others who remember the old days, was true to the ancient rule: be silent.

The committee knew, of course, that Trafficante had been contacted early by Roselli and Giancana (possibly also by Rothman), and that he took part in the series of meetings between Maheu, Roselli, and Giancana, and, afterward, between the reputed Syndicate group and C.I.A. operatives Harvey and O'Connell. It knew he had been in a Castro jail and that at least one C.I.A. document linked Ruby and Trafficante while the latter was in jail. It knew that Jose Aleman, Jr., had reported to the F.B.I. that Trafficante had, in effect, predicted the death of the president. And it knew that Trafficante's Tampa, Miami, New Orleans, and Cuban-exile contacts had given him direct access to the anti-Castro movement (or it ought to have known). The committee knew all of these things to be true, and asked Trafficante if they were true. Trafficante refused to talk. As a media event, it flourished for a day - and then it was over. But the Committee was renewed.

What could the committee have learned from Trafficante? What questions did it not ask that Trafficante could have answered (if he had chosen to)? To answer these questions, I will rely on a number of important primary and secondary sources, but especially on Peter Dale Scott's analysis of the *Schweiker Report* - what it told us and what it did not tell us.

### **The Caribbean Complex**

What Scott identified as a cooperative system of lobbyists, politicians, Syndicate figures, intelligence operatives, labor officials, and business exploiters, in Washington, on the Gulf Coast, in the Caribbean, and the Bahamas, I have called the "Caribbean Complex." It included two key nations: Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic. The Trujillo-Somoza lobby in Washington in the 1950s and 1960s had

leverage far out of proportion to the size of the two countries represented, maintaining influential contacts with and through the Syndicate, the Bobby Baker group in Congress, and the Teamsters. This leverage was both symbolized by and realized in I. Irving Davidson, the Nicaraguan-Teamster lobbyist in Washington; Davidson also shared interests with, and represented, the Clint Murchison family of Texas, an important segment of the Caribbean Complex which had financial ties to the Bobby Baker group and, one investigator reported, to Syndicate figures interested in exploiting Haiti. The Murchisons were also important Teamster-loan recipients.

The Caribbean Complex used, and was used by, the Lansky- Trafficante Syndicate forces which exploited and corrupted the islands off Florida. Cuba was an early target of the Complex, and, afterward, when Cuba was Castro's, the northern and southern halves of the Caribbean received the attentions of the alliance, with Haiti, Jamaica, and the Bahamas drawing the interest of both the Syndicate and Texas business and political figures. Concurrently, the C.I.A. used its Syndicate influence in the area to augment its fight against Communism and to support right-wing (and therefore stable) regimes. When the Central American nations (and northern South America) were threatened by Castro-like insurgency, a series of right-wing coups occurred, with Guatemala the first, in March, 1963.

After the Bay of Pigs, the Trujillo- Somoza group was joined by (1) C.I.A.-supported Manuel Artime and his associates and (2) Rolando Cubela Secades (AMLASH) and his associates. The group was further enriched by (3) Jose Aleman, Jr. (an associate of Santo Trafficante), assisted by (4) Carlos Bringuier and his New Orleans friends, and given muscle by (5) reputed Syndicate figures long associated with Meyer Lansky and Trafficante in Cuba and the Caribbean. Many of its members and groups had been trained, supported, and were still being used by the Central Intelligence Agency. The Complex could call on (1) the Somoza brothers-Trujillo intelligence/ secret-police grid in Latin America; (2) its allies in the United States: a group of lobbyists for Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic, and the Teamsters; and (3) members of the old China Lobby and the newly-formed "Cuba Lobby." Like I. Irving Davidson, many of the persons associated with the Somoza-Trujillo-Teamsters group were both anti-Castro and anti-Kennedy.

The Caribbean Complex cannot be "placed" anywhere; like its supporting organizations, the Syndicate and the multi-national corporations (both of which benefited from exploiting the Caribbean area), the Complex was a set of relations, political, financial, and paramilitary, rather than a point or place on a map. But its

activities did cluster significantly in Miami, in New Orleans, and in Dallas, and it was aided by the reputed organized crime leaders of the "Southern Tier," Marcello and Trafficante, both of whom were friends and supporters of the Teamsters and Jimmy Hoffa, who also had hidden investments in the Caribbean.

The Nicaraguan Secret police, the Somoza family, Manuel Artime and other anti-Castro Cubans supported or trained by the C.I.A., plotted the death of Fidel Castro and the overthrow of the Cuban government. After the assassination of John F. Kennedy, four (possibly six) members of the Somoza-Artime anti-Castro alliance were sources of false stories linking (1) Oswald and Castro and (2) Ruby and Castro. In particular, the "D"/Gilberto Alvarado "Oswald" story was told by a secret agent from Nicaragua, a nation whose representatives were directly involved in actively plotting Castro's death. The anxiety level in this group was probably matched only by the paranoia that swept the Minutemen movement just after Kennedy's murder. David Atlee Phillips (in 1977) belatedly announced he had seen through the Alvarado "Oswald" yarn as a Somoza-brothers attempt to get the U.S. to move against Cuba, but the Warren Commission had already come to that conclusion in 1964. Why, then, re-tell one of the Complex's discredited "Oswald" stories, pinning it exclusively on the Somozas? Jack Anderson, in a column on September 28th, 1977, belted Anastasio Somoza of Nicaragua after what he called "painstaking investigation"; Anderson could have asked his friend, I. Irving Davidson, the Nicaraguan lobbyist, for any of the details he might have needed. According to Anderson, Somoza was a "tempestuous tyrant," a "spoiled brat," and had tallied some impressive scores in torturing, bullying, brutalizing, and killing his own people. No mention was made by Anderson of the publicly- available record of the Somozas' involvement in C.I.A.- Syndicate- supported assassination attempts against Castro. Coming somewhat late in history, the culmination of Anderson's two-year attack on Somoza was mildly gratifying, even if suspicious. But why was a "former" C.I.A. officer, David Atlee Phillips, now telling an anti-Somoza story? And why was a friend of I. Irving Davidson, the Washington voice of the Somozas, attacking one of the Somozas?

In 1975, Anderson and Phillips appeared with Marks (and an Agee videotape) on a network-news show. Anderson had broadcast his "scoop" on Roselli and the Syndicate-C.I.A. plots. Agee, on tape, then took a verbal shot at Phillips through Phillips' daughter (according to Phillips, untrue). Both Phillips and Anderson were concerned; it seems that, according to Phillips, the Andersons and the Phillips lived near one another in Bethesda, Maryland, and Anderson's son had been dating Phillips' daughter at the time. Could it be that the "retired" GS-18 and the

nationally-known columnist (who has admitted contacts in the intelligence world - in particular, in the C.I.A.) were working together, informally, and that one of their mutual targets was Anastasio Somoza? Santo Trafficante's silence would then be more understandable, since (according to Anderson), Roselli's revelations had allegedly included the charge that *Trafficante's Cubans had been used against John F. Kennedy*, and "someone" in the Syndicate had ordered the death of the "decoy," Lee Harvey Oswald, by Syndicate asset Jack Ruby (linked to both Lansky and Trafficante). Was the Somoza group - including its alleged Lansky-Trafficante support - being warned to be silent? Were the unasked questions at Trafficante's House Select Committee appearance the crucial ones to which Santo, Jr., did not, of course, give his response?

### **The Caribbean Complex and Lake Pontchartrain**

The *Schweiker Report* revealed (1) that some American officials gave support to the false "Oswald" story transmitted by "D"/Alvarado (whose base was the Somoza- Artime- mercenary plot against Castro), and (2) that the Syndicate was a co-sponsor of the Lake Pontchartrain commando- assassination camp which had Nicaragua- Somoza support and assistance from Carlos Bringuier and other anti-Castro Cubans. Like Bringuier, who was an F.B.I. informant, many Cuban exiles in the Pontchartrain operation had intelligence ties, including the *Schweiker Report's* Cuban called "A," who was an associate of Rolando Cubela Secades (AMLASH), and who allegedly gave both the Bureau and the Company "information" which linked the Cubela/AMLASH plot directly to the C.I.A.-organized crime attempts of 1960-62. The AMLASH story is a favorite assassination detail of those analysts who then opt for a Castro "retaliation" to AMLASH, no matter how improbable, and a lone assassin, Oswald.

The Lake Pontchartrain operation was an anti-Castro training camp of the Cuban-exile MDC - the Christian Democratic Movement. Carlos Bringuier supported the MDC- Pontchartrain program, and (probably correctly) identified Oswald's offer to join the training group as an infiltration attempt. The camp was owned by the de la Barre family, allies of the Caribbean Complex with important holdings in Guatemala, where Antonio Valladres, the partner of the C.I.A.-supported Guatemalan minister of the interior, had chaired an anti-Communist conference in 1958. Valladres also had a direct connection to the Syndicate's Trafficante-Marcello Southern Tier as Marcello's lawyer. Carlos Marcello operated and temporarily resided in Guatemala: it was his base after Robert Kennedy unceremoniously "deported" him. And Guatemala was, of course,

one of the important staging areas for the Bay of Pigs brigade, whose training and transport George de Mohrenschildt observed and reported on for the U.S. government. The de la Barre training camp at Pontchartrain (supported by the Somozas and Nicaragua: the mercenaries and Cubans would afterward be sent to Nicaragua) had as its MDC chief Laureano Batista (no relation to Fulgencio). Among Laureano Batista's associates was the unnamed Cuban exile of the Schweiker Report, "A," a friend of Cubela/ AMLASH, who in 1963 reportedly transported 2400 pounds of dynamite to a house at Mandeville, Louisiana, on the north side of the lake just a mile from the Pontchartrain camp. On July 31st, 1963, the F.B.I. raided that house (as part of the Kennedy-Justice Department enforcement of the Cuban moratorium decided on the past spring). Among others arrested by the F.B.I. was Sam Benton, who had resided in Cuba under Batista and reportedly helped place worthless securities at Syndicate- associated banks with a prior history of gambling-money laundering; Benton had worked with Mike McLaney in placing the securities. McLaney, of course, had helped run the Lansky- Trafficante Tropicana, and had cooperated with the C.I.A. when he stayed on in Cuba, hoping that Castro (through Sturgis?) would appoint him Casino Chief of Cuba. "A"'s 2400 pounds of explosives were seized, as well as bomb casings, napalm materials, and other weapons and ammunition. William McLaney, Mike McLaney's brother, owned the arms cache house - which had been allegedly leased to "Jose Juarez," reportedly a new-arrival from Cuba. William McLaney had also worked at the Lansky-Trafficante Tropicana with Jack Ruby's associate, Louis J. McWillie, until Castro expelled him in 1960. Arrested with Sam Benton, among others, were (1) Acelo Pedro Amores, a member of the Somoza-Arttime group who had been a Batista official, and (2) Richard Lauchli, Jr., a founder of the Minutemen. Lauchli manufactured weapons in Collinsville, Illinois, and in 1964 was arrested by Treasury agents for violating Federal firearms laws with Cuban exiles and mercenaries linked to the Caribbean Complex. Cubela's friend "A" - like all the other Cuban exiles involved - was connected to a Lake Ponchartrain training camp and arsenal run by C.I.A.-associated Syndicate, Caribbean, and Minutemen figures.

In 1971, Sam Benton (who was arrested in the 1963 Bureau raid) was indicted with an attorney representing the so-called "Ansan" group, implicated in laundering millions of dollars and buying up real estate on Key Biscayne which would also involve Teamster and Nixon interests. The Ansan group, of course, was involved in the Lansky- Trafficante/ Somoza/ Arttime/ Cubela operations against Castro. Three key Ansan members were (1) a brother of Laureano Batista, the MDC leader in charge of the Pontchartrain training (Laureano's personal assistant was Victor Panque Batista, with many alleged Minutemen associations, who was

reputedly the leader of an "underground" conduit for expelled Syndicate casino operators, and a co-worker with Carlos Prio's associate, Frank Sturgis); (2) Anselmo Alliegro, Batista's investment partner who was associated with the Miami bank through which Sam Benton and reputed Lansky-Trafficante delegate Mike McLaney passed their fraudulent securities; and (3) Jose Aleman, Sr., who had held a ministerial post under Lansky's and Sturgis's friend, former Cuban President Carlos Prio Socarras. Jose Aleman's son, Jose, Jr., was a close friend of Rolando Cubela Secades (AMLASH), and had financed Cubela's anti-Batista operations in the 1950s. And, of course, Jose Aleman, Jr., was an F.B.I. informant and an associate of Santo Trafficante who had offered to get Aleman a Teamster loan through Trafficante's ally and associate, Jimmy Hoffa.

The Caribbean Complex was therefore operating an anti-Castro training center at Lake Pontchartrain which consisted of:

1. reputed Syndicate figures associated with (a) Lansky and Trafficante (and Louis J. McWillie); (b) the Ansan group; and (c) the Cubela-Arttime-C.I.A. assassination plots;
2. Cuban exiles associated with or including (a) Carlos Bringuier; (b) Jose Aleman, Jr.; (c) "A," the Cuban exile leader who supplied explosives to the center; (d) Manuel Arttime (whose operations included supplying AMLASH/Cubela with C.I.A. weaponry); and (e) Carlos Prio Socarras (associated with the Lansky-Trafficante group and Frank Sturgis);
3. C.I.A.- supported or Agency-associated figures (a) in the Lansky- Trafficante Syndicate group; (b) in the Sturgis- associated mercenary groups training at Pontchartrain; (c) in the Arttime and Bringuier Cuban- exile organizations: the C.I.A.- Arttime operation was an invasion-and-assassination scenario which included MDC-leader Laureano Batista, Jose Aleman's ally, Carlos Prio Socarras, and Manuel Arttime's representative, Miguel de Leon - all of whom met with Luis Somoza of Nicaragua to effect their plans;
4. mercenaries and Cuban exiles having close associations to the right-wing Minutemen, including Richard Lauchli, a Minutemen founder.

The MDC-Syndicate training activity (including the Mandeville arms house) was but one wing of the C.I.A.- Arttime- Cubela- Somoza plan to topple Castro.



Within these interacting groups, Carlos Prio Socarras was one of its most vulnerable figures, since he was associated with the Caribbean Complex operation within (1) the C.I.A.- Artime group; (2) the Ansan group (through MDC-leader Laureano Batista); and (3) the alleged Trafficante group by (a) his prior association with Lansky and (b) his casino-operators connection through Victor Panque Batista and his friend and co-worker, Frank Sturgis. Carlos Prio's reported associations with Jack Ruby would only have added to his vulnerability, since a number of Ruby's associations led back to the same network to which Prio belonged. As Peter Dale Scott summarized, Ruby knew Nofio Pecora, allegedly Carlos Marcello's chief of prostitution and narcotics; Pecora's brother-in-law was D'Alton Smith, a Marcello chief linked to the Marcello attempt to change the testimony of a key witness against Jimmy Hoffa, who was indicted in 1970 with Ruby's friend Maurice Medlevine in the Sam Benton-Mike McLaney securities fraud scheme. Others associated with the Benton-McLaney operation were reported to be Trafficante's friend Carlos Marcello and Trafficante's co-worker Charles Tourine (whom Frank Sturgis, Prio's friend, has admitted knowing in Cuba). Putting pressure on Carlos Prio would have made the whole, ugly boil of the C.I.A.- Syndicate- Cuban exile-Somoza operation pop.

### **"A" for Aleman?**

The evidence strongly suggests that (1) the unnamed Cuban exile leader who met with Maheu, Roselli, Giancana, Trafficante, and the Agency representatives designated by Dulles, Bissell, and Sheffield Edwards; (2) "A," the good friend and associate of Cubela/ AMLASH who "informed" the F.B.I. and the C.I.A. of Cubela's association with anti-Castro Syndicate figures, and who was a friend of Sam Benton; and (3) Jose Aleman, Jr., who was Cubela's friend and financial supporter, who was Sam Benton's associate (and who was linked to the exposure of the Benton-McLaney securities operation), and was Santo Trafficante's friend - were the same person. If so, Jose Aleman, Jr., is an important witness to the meaning of the dark journey which could have begun at Pontchartrain, the lake echoing to the crack of sniper-scoped rifles, and ended at Dealey Plaza on November 22nd, 1963.

Jose Aleman's (1) story of Trafficante's prediction of the Kennedy assassination; (2) assurance that he reported that Trafficante information to his intelligence contacts; and (3) story that Trafficante offered to negotiate an Aleman-Teamster loan, all sound like "A"/Aleman was using the "underworld" stories as self-protection and, rather than "exposing" the Syndicate's connections with the Ponchartrain operations (and possibly to the Kennedy assassination), was

warning the government and the intelligence community. If Aleman exposed the Pontchartrain conspiracy, the F.B.I. would be in trouble (since it had some knowledge of the operation), and the C.I.A. would be trouble (since it had backed all the elements of the operation). Support for these possible motivations, of course, depends upon verification of the identity of "A" as Aleman.

Lee Harvey Oswald's recorded attempt to penetrate this complexity through Carlos Bringuier should be re-evaluated by the House Select Committee, since his action could have threatened (1) the anti-Castro assassination and invasion plans of the Bringuier/ Arttime/ Cubela/ Somoza/ Minutemen/ Syndicate alliance demonstrably operating at Lake Pontchartrain; and (2) the planned exploitation (by that same group) of Cuba and the on- going exploitation of the Caribbean-Bahamian areas.

Two sources suggest that a Trafficante associate, most probably Jose Aleman, Jr., was a key principal in the Complex's planning of a Castro murder and invasion of Cuba. According to the Senate Intelligence Committee, Santo Trafficante was in charge of the logistical support of the anti-Castro murder attempts, and a figure remarkably like both "A" and Aleman was involved with him. Johnny Roselli informed the unnamed Support Chief for the Castro assassination plot that Santo Trafficante knew a leader of the Cuban-exile movement who might be able to effect the assassination. The C.I.A.'s Inspector General's Report suggested that this leading Cuban-exile figure was receiving money from Trafficante and his associates who hoped to gain "gambling, prostitution, and dope monopolies" in Cuba following the fall of Castro.

Was Jose Aleman, Jr., that leading Cuban-exile figure? In an overlooked passage of the *Schweiker* Report, we are told that

...certain underworld interests were opposed to Castro. Before his take over, Cuba had been very important to those interests, but Castro had forced the underworld out. Removal of Castro likely meant these interests could return to Cuba.

The footnote to this passage is even more relevant:

Indeed, during the missile crisis [October, 1962] an FBI informant reported that "he believes he could arrange to have Fidel Castro assassinated....Underworld figures still have channels inside Cuba through which the assassination of Castro could be successfully arranged."

"He said that in the event the United States Government is interested in having the attempt made, he would raise the necessary money and would want nothing from the Government except the assurance that such an undertaking would in no way adversely affect the national security. He expressed confidence in his ability to accomplish this mission without any additional contact with Government representatives and with a minimum of contacts with private individuals."

The Bureau reported this contact to the Attorney General and concluded:

*The informant was told that his offer is outside our jurisdiction, which he acknowledged. No commitments were made to him. At this time, we do not plan to further pursue the matter. Our relationship with him has been most carefully guarded and we would feel obligated to handle any recontact of him concerning this matter if such is desired.*

(memorandum from Hoover to the Attorney General, 10/29/62)  
(italics added)

No public record is presently available indicating that the Attorney General asked for such a re-contacting of the Bureau informant. Did someone, however, feel that he ought to be re-contacted "concerning this matter"?

"A" was an F.B.I. informant; Aleman was an F.B.I. informant; both "A" and Aleman had Syndicate connections. Could this J. Edgar Hoover "FBI informant" also be Trafficante's alleged contact with the Artime- Cubela- Somoza- Syndicate group, Jose Aleman, Jr.? The Caribbean Complex - with its Syndicate- C.I.A.- Cuban exile- Minutemen- Somoza invasion and exploitation plans - could be the meaning of Santo Trafficante's silence.

### **George de Mohrenschildt**

When Lee Harvey Oswald brought his young Russian wife Marina back to America and to Dallas, the Oswalds were befriended by the Russian emigre' community of Dallas and Ft. Worth. Ultimately they met George de Mohrenschildt and his wife Jeanne, and though most of the so-called White Russians paid close attention to Marina and the Oswalds' daughter June, many of those same Russians had mixed feelings about Lee. It was at least strange, therefore, that the couple

which in many ways represented the most worldly and "European" aspects of the White Russians should be the couple which eventually gravitated to the Oswalds. On the other hand, the de Mohrenschildts were also outsiders in their own "community," and several of the more prominent of the White Russians had strongly negative or mixed feelings about George de Mohrenschildt. These feelings, of course, might have been generated after the assassination by the thought that George and Jeanne had been too close to the Oswalds, or by the not-too-disguised suspicion that de Mohrenschildt might have been involved himself. Or the doubts and suspicions might have been part of a deliberate disinformation ploy.

George de Mohrenschildt was actually Count Sergei de Mohrenschildt who, according to a fellow member of the Dallas Russian exile community, came from a noble Swedish family living in Baku, the Ukraine, an area from which would be drawn thousands of World War II German sympathizers and Russian nationalists in the General Vlassov movement. One witness identified the family as "by-the-Baltic" Germans, and at least one member of family used the von Mohrenschildt form of the surname. The Baron's father, also reportedly born in Russia, became the director of the Czar's Baku oil complex owned by Gustav Nobel. Later, after holding an important position in Soviet agriculture, de Mohrenschildt's father fled Russia, and in the late 1920s came to the United States with part of the family.

Baron de Mohrenschildt attended both high school and military school in Poland, eventually becoming a Polish cavalry officer. Later, he studied in France and in Belgium, and received a doctorate in economics. He also was said to have studied in the 1920s both in Colorado and in Austin, Texas, finally earning a master's degree in petroleum engineering.

In 1939, the Baron moved to Texas, where he was employed in the petrochemical industry. In 1941, de Mohrenschildt traveled through southern Texas and Mexico, allegedly to make a film about Poland. But the FBI suspected him of Nazi spying, and his admitted "film" contact was Baron Constantine Maydell, accused of spying for Nazi Germany as an agent of Hitler's military intelligence in America - Abwehr II. Both Abwehr (European military intelligence) and Abwehr II were absorbed into the German Gehlen- Vlassov spy network by the middle of World War II. At the end of the war, Reinhard Gehlen defected to the Allies with his files intact and his agents in place, and the Gehlen-Vlassov-Abwehr complex was financed and run by American military intelligence and, later, by the American Central Intelligence Agency.

According to de Mohrenschildt, he had been a clandestine operator for French intelligence. But twice, in June 1941 and again in September 1942, the FBI suspected him of being a Nazi agent. Searched and questioned but not arrested in his first brush with federal authorities, de Mohrenschildt had papers in his possession which connected him to Nelson Rockefeller, a fact not pursued either in 1941-42 or in 1964 when the de Mohrenschildt- Rockefeller link came to the attention of the Warren Commission and was ignored. In the 1940s the Rockefellers were, of course, in control of Standard Oil (now the Exxon Corporation, which owns 50 per cent of Socony Mobil, the Texas petrochemical company with which so many of the characters in the post- assassination story were associated), and the Rockefeller-Morgan group was building its effective control of crucial areas of the mining and chemical industry in the United States. In 1940-41, the leading petrochemical companies of America had cartel arrangements with German firms supporting the Nazi German government at the onset of World War II, and were in active opposition to fighting Hitler. The Truman Committee investigation, for example, exposed in detail the I.G. Farben- Rockefeller Standard Oil agreement which Congress believed had helped hobble American war preparedness. And as late as 1973 the Philippine subsidiary of Rockefeller's Exxon Corporation refused oil sales to the United States Navy at Subic Bay, in effect supporting the Arab oil boycott.

In the 1950s, de Mohrenschildt had close Mexican government ties, and was a reputed intimate of Mexican President Miguel Aleman. Later in 1961, de Mohrenschildt made a tour of the oil-rich southern Mexican states, probably on a petrochemical intelligence assignment, and wound up in Guatemala City just in time for the Bay of Pigs staging, about which he would submit a report to the American government.

George de Mohrenschildt's fourth wife, born in China of White Russian parents (she was allegedly sympathetic to the Maoist revolutionary movement but also bitter toward it because the Chinese Communists executed her father), had one brother who worked for the C.I.A., the other for Howard Hughes. After a government- obtained job in Tito's Yugoslavia for oil interests with American government ties, de Mohrenschildt was debriefed at length in several meetings by a Dallas C.I.A. agent, and probably provided both petrochemical and other intelligence. George de Mohrenschildt was in contact with the Dallas Agency employee, J. Dalton Moore, whom de Mohrenschildt admitted consulting a number of times about Lee Harvey Oswald. But according to the Baron, he "thought" Moore was a Bureau agent.

When the de Mohrenschildts returned from their Mexican- Panama- Guatemala tour, the Baron was met by the vice president of Brown and Root Construction Co. - a part of the international Halliburton oil-drilling megacorporation with Mexican oil field interests.

The George de Mohrenschildt story is properly a part of Lee Harvey Oswald's probable intelligence assignments; and just a review of the available evidence on Oswald's intelligence connections would fill a volume nearly this size. But what is relevant to a discussion of the assassination can be isolated in de Mohrenschildt's life, and, at least at one point, keyed to Oswald's.

The White Baron's background was an incredible mix of two rather obvious and related strands: government intelligence and petrochemical intelligence. The White Russian community was apparently engaged in both, and often neither the White Russians nor their clients seemed to differentiate (or were able to differentiate) between the two. It is not Oswald's duplicity in Dallas, therefore, which is at issue, but rather de Mohrenschildt's. A productive analysis of the Oswald-de Mohrenschildt story might result from turning their relation up-side-down: that is, instead of looking at the alleged intelligence "baby-sitting" of the Baron, examining the possibility that Oswald was observing the Baron (in particular) and the White Russians (in general). Whether that possible Oswald assignment was legitimate or deliberately contrived would be still another question.

Peter Dale Scott was quite correct to focus on de Mohrenschildt's Texan, Cuban and Latin American petrochemical work, particularly for the Murchisons and with the Cuba-Venezuela Oil Trust Co., since *those activities placed him exactly within the business-intelligence context of the Caribbean Complex*. All the rest of de Mohrenschildt's intelligence endeavors and his petrochemical assignments in "third-world" nations and in Africa identified the Baron (1) as a *principal* in a number of exploitation schemes and (2) as an *agent* of other interested parties in such exploitation work. The Baron admitted to working for French intelligence and therefore could have had European O.S.S. contacts. Equally strong evidence suggests that de Mohrenschildt did some work for the C.I.A., probably combining his petrochemical business-intelligence with periodic spying for the Company. His "checking out" of Oswald with C.I.A. representative J. Dalton Moore in Dallas sounds less like de Mohrenschildt "running" Oswald than what it probably was: a suspicious, occasional spy trying to find out if Oswald was himself on an intelligence assignment in Dallas. George de Mohrenschildt's multiplicity of intelligence work defined his character as a person; it may also have fitted him for whatever jobs he was doing within the Caribbean Complex.

The White Baron had continuing connections to the same groups which supplied, funded, and supported the alliance of anti-Castro groups which stood to gain from the fall of Cuba and the further exploitation of the Caribbean and the Bahamas. That de Mohrenschildt looked away from Cuba and toward Haiti was no problem; that foresight made him a part of the larger context of the assassination, and gave meaning, I think, to his relationship with Oswald. With members of the Batista (Falla) family, he helped to establish the Cuba-Venezuela Oil Trust Co.; it was less important that a Pantipac Oil Company agent who was involved in that operation came from an exploitation company owned by the Buckley family, and that through the Buckleys, de Mohrenschildt could be indirectly connected to Manuel Artime and E. Howard Hunt; rather with the Baron's philosophy and motivation, it would be inevitable he would work with individuals and groups having such connections. In fact, his earlier connections with the Batista Falla family would give him theoretical access to the Lake Pontchartrain project itself. The other Cuba-Venezuela Oil Trust Co. partner, Trujillo-associate Amadeo Barletta, would give him the same kind of access, though less direct. The goal of that de Mohrenschildt project was the exploitation of Cuba: "We owned about one-half of the country under lease. When Castro took over, it was forfeited." Like the casino operators represented by Lansky and Trafficante, de Mohrenschildt and his investment allies had enough motive to want Cuba to be regained for exploitation, and, in the process, be rid of a model for other countries which might begin to resist such exploitation, legal or illegal.

George de Mohrenschildt was probably double-hatting through most of his career. If we reverse the usual explanations of his Mexican-Central American-Guatemalan tour, the story makes at least as much sense: the Baron would then be on a government intelligence assignment in Mexico, and on an exploitation tour in Guatemala, with the government report-writing a rather thin cover (why would the United States want an intelligence report on the Bay of Pigs staging?). George de Mohrenschildt had both personal and business interests associating him with the Brown and Root Construction Co., which, in turn, had Mexican oil field interests. Under that cover, he might have done a little spying for the F.B.I. or the C.I.A. - or both.

From 1960 through 1964, forces were marshalling against Cuba and, beyond, in the Caribbean and the Bahamas. Those forces included a group of now-familiar names and organizations, often working together: Bobby Baker and his associates; I. Irving Davidson; the Murchison family of Texas; the Teamsters and Jimmy Hoffa; Meyer Lansky, Santo Trafficante, and their associate, Mike McLaney; and George

de Mohrenschildt and his associates who were investors and financial adventurers like De Manil of Schlumbergers (Houston), a firm which, among other things, was allegedly involved in European and Gulf-Coast munitions traffic. Haiti had been chosen as a target by the Murchisons, Davidson, Baker, Lansky, Trafficante, and de Mohrenschildt. And like Lansky and McLaney, the Baron numbered among his many exploitation goals the establishing of at least one gambling casino in Haiti.

George de Mohrenschildt's White Russian friends in the Dallas-Fort Worth area were overtones of the Baron's single note. They were almost all distinguished members of the emigre' community. Chief among them was Paul Raigorodsky, millionaire, Texas oilman, occasional American government official, the benevolent dictator of the Dallas White Russians, and director of the Tolstoy Foundation, one of the White Russians' C.I.A. assets which at one time received a reported annual Agency subsidy of nearly \$500,000. With the help of the foundation, Eastern European exiles could get to America. Once in the United States, the C.I.A.-supported Dallas Russian Orthodox Church would help out. St. Nicholas Parish was the receiver of this largesse, but it also received substantial funding through the Baird Foundation and the Catherwood Foundation (of Philadelphia), both reportedly sources of Agency money. Standing the C.I.A.-White Russian relationship on its head, (1) the obvious intelligence the members already had, and (2) the intelligence they would almost casually gather (many of them speaking a score of languages and a number of dialects of each), meant, in a sense, the Agency was relying on the White Russians rather than the other way around. The C.I.A. would have been only one of the Russian community's sources of income.

The founder of the Dallas Russian Orthodox parish was another prominent emigre': George Bouhe, personal accountant of Lewis M. McNaughton, senior chairman of the board, De Golyer and McNaughton, geologists and engineers - with business ties to the rich oil companies of the Fort Worth- Dallas area. Most of the Eastern Europeans associated with St. Nicholas Parish seemed to have "done well," establishing themselves in investment banking and venture financing, in aerospace, and in petrochemicals, the worlds of Socony-Mobil, General Dynamics, and the Great Southwest Corporation. Houston, Fort Worth, San Antonio, Dallas: the worlds of Howard Hughes, the Murchisons, the Wynnes - the world of George de Mohrenschildt, where the power and the energy - and the government contracts - supported the whole area's phallic thrust into the liquidity of the Caribbean. Like de Mohrenschildt, the other Dallas Eastern Europeans moved easily from government spying to business spying - from political intelligence to petrochemical and other corporate intelligence, while still retaining the many clandestine contacts made overseas and at home. George de Mohrenschildt and the White Russians were imbedded in the Southwestern wing of the Caribbean Complex.



In 1956, de Mohrenschildt decided to look for "foreign assignments," and he hinted at important government connections (business shills, even when they have a legitimate enterprise to hawk, can't resist suggesting "big money" or "government contracts" are behind them: and sometimes they are right). Testimony given the Warren Commission indicated de Mohrenschildt believed he could tap the American Foreign Aid Program for assistance, and that he planned to travel to Washington to contact "agents...called 5 per centers" who would find him the right connection.

Traveling frequently from Texas to the national capital and back in 1956 and 1957, the Baron established his Washington connection. It would be useful to discover if his contact had been part of the Bobby Baker group. In 1958 he visited Yugoslavia, Sweden, France, Poland, and Cuba, maintained a Mexican border contact, and visited a rich White Russian emigre' in Haiti. After each of his visits, de Mohrenschildt allegedly submitted a written review to the United States government - repeatedly hinting "that he was doing some service for the State Department." A fairly- talkative spy: a practice which may have gotten him in trouble eventually.

At least as early as 1961, de Mohrenschildt visited the Dominican Republic and Haiti a number of times. About January, 1963, three months before the Baron and his wife departed from Dallas on their way to New York, Miami, and Haiti, he told members of the Dallas White Russian community that he was "working on getting a job with Haiti," which, given the documents available in the Hearings volumes, is a rather large understatement. He also suggested that American foreign aid money was involved, and that he would be working with certain State Department connections. In 1962 and 1963, the Baron's activities accelerated: many unexplained trips to Philadelphia and to New York; telephone calls and trips to Houston, visiting what one White Russian called an "unsavory character" in Houston who had "something to do with his Haitian assignment." The Warren Commission stepped very lightly on the tail of this snake.

In testimony before the Warren Commission, the Houston link momentarily commanded the attention of both Commission counsel Albert Jenner, the interrogator, and Igor Voshinin, the witness (oddly enough, J. Dalton Moore, the alleged C.I.A. representative in Dallas, Igor Voshinin, an influential White Russian working in petrochemicals, and the Dallas Secret Service were all tenants in the same building owned by the Bedford Wynne family, the financial partners and the family law firm of the Clint Murchison family of Texas and the Caribbean). The de Mohrenschildt Houston trips occurred like clockwork late in 1962:

Jenner: Did the Houston trips take place during the years 1962 and 1963 up to the time -

Voshinin: Up to their departure. That's right.

Jenner: Up to the time the de Mohrenschildts left for Haiti?

Voshinin: Uh-huh.

Voshinin felt compelled to bring up the Houston trips and their mysterious persistence on his own:

Voshinin: Now, there is one thing which always strikes me peculiar....The last two years...the de Mohrenschildts were going to Houston about every four weeks, and de Mohrenschildt was always saying, "I have to go to Houston on business." But...he would say he was...getting his jobs through a 5 percenter in Washington - and here he was always going to Houston, like reporting to somebody; every four or five weeks, he was always going to Houston. And as far as me and my wife heard about his business, he has no oil interest there or no business there whatsoever. But as far as he was always interested only in foreign assignments, why should he go to Houston? even before...the late President was killed...my wife [and I were] wondering - what in hell is he doing in Houston? You don't get foreign assignments through Houston.

Igor Voshinin, like a score of Warren Commission witnesses, including Jack Ruby, asked better questions than those asked by the Commission counsel; and, like scores of other non-responses from the Commission's lawyers, Jenner's non-response is depressing. Jenner could, for example, have mused: "Well, maybe you don't get foreign assignments in Houston...but maybe domestic?"

But the Houston connection could have been much less morbid and, from the point of view of its participants, of greater magnitude than the killing of a president. The Warren Commission chose to ignore the evidence of a Houston-Haitian link which probably was a part of the Complex's plan to exploit Haiti - and all the other islands of the Carribean and the Bahamas. The Commission apparently ignored nearly all the leads that might have brought it the truth. Here, in the de Mohrenschildt Haitian-Houston link, the Commission might have followed a trail which led to Lake Pontchartrain, the Caribbean Complex's operation which Lee Harvey Oswald attempted to penetrate.

Whatever intelligence assignment Lee Harvey Oswald had in the Soviet Union, if he had one, and if "he" ever went, the parallels between his New Orleans activities and his Dallas activities are inescapable, especially when set in the contexts which unite the two cities between 1961 and 1963. In New Orleans as well as in Dallas, was Oswald attempting to penetrate a part of the Caribbean Complex and its increasingly proscribed activities? In New Orleans as well as in Dallas, was part of the Complex's activities a plan to assassinate John F. Kennedy? Did Oswald lift a corner of the cover, and discover the terrible secret? Was the key to the mystery of Oswald's part in the assassination drama, especially in the light of George O'Toole's P.S.E. reading - strongly presumptive of Oswald's innocence - Lee Harvey Oswald's silence?

Much of Oswald's strange behavior in New Orleans, and more particularly in Dallas, can be explained, I think, by testing it against several hypotheses: (1) Oswald had done previous intelligence service for the United States; (2) Oswald was again working for the American government, or *thought he was*, in Dallas; (3) members of the White Russian community, but especially George de Mohrenschildt (and possibly Ruth and Michael Paine) separated Oswald from his family and isolated him in Dallas - through the moment of his death. Afterward, other individuals and groups closed in around Marina Oswald (and the children) and Oswald's mother. Immediately after Oswald was taken into custody, a wedge was driven between Marguerite Oswald and Marina, and representatives of *Life-Time*, most importantly C.D. Jackson, drew Marina, Marina's business manager, and Robert Oswald together. Ruth Paine was unusually cooperative with the *Life* magazine representatives, and she should be asked by the House Select Committee on Assassinations about (1) changing her testimony and public statements about Lee Harvey Oswald, (2) her friendship with the de Mohrenschildts and the Frazier-Randle family, and (3) her notable cooperation with the F.B.I., the Dallas police, and the *Life-Time* representatives. C.D. Jackson has been identified by Carl Bernstein in October, 1977, as Henry Luce's personal delegate to the Central Intelligence Agency. According to Bernstein, Jackson approved giving *Time-Life* "cover" to Agency operatives with the full knowledge of Clare Boothe Luce. Jackson died in 1964, but Clare Boothe Luce ought to be interrogated by the House Select Committee about her possible knowledge of a known C.D. Jackson-Marina Oswald financial arrangement, and whether Jackson was acting for the C.I.A. or any officers of the C.I.A. interested in Marina's welfare. Ruth and Michael Paine should be asked if they were instructed by anyone on the local, state, or national levels of government (officially or unofficially) to keep Marina and Lee apart. If Lee Harvey Oswald did visit the Soviet Embassy in late September and early October, 1963, that

visit would have been consistent with the Oswalds' attempts from no later than June, 1963, to get Marina, June, and Marina's still-unborn baby to *safety* in the Soviet Union, once Oswald had determined that (1) a plot against the president was indeed in its planning stages, and (2) the Cubans and Soviets had nothing to do with it. The rumor that has been leaked by C.I.A. sources that Oswald spoke to the Soviets about a "free" trip to the Soviet Union in exchange for certain "information," and the Agency statement that Oswald, or someone representing himself as Oswald, spoke to Kostikov (an assassination specialist) at the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City, followed by the Agency assurance (disseminated by David Atlee Phillips) the Soviets did not take Oswald seriously, may in fact be the pieces of the puzzle we have always needed. Did Oswald penetrate the assassination plot, fear for his family's safety, attempt to place them out of harm's way by bargaining assassination information for the family's assured protection and passage, was he rejected, and was he subsequently isolated and set-up for the assassination of John F. Kennedy?

Certainly one important reason for Lee Harvey Oswald's silence could have been his suspicion that he *had* been isolated, and if he talked, Marina and the children would be in danger. Did someone communicate a threat to Oswald before he was murdered by Jack Ruby on November 24, 1963?

The Warren Commission, with knowledge of so much else about George de Mohrenschildt of a peculiar nature - his political and corporate intelligence work, for example, which linked him prior to the Kennedy assassination with individuals and groups implicated in the post- assassination cover-up - chose to ignore, whether or not willfully, the evidence of a Houston-Haitian connection between 1962 and 1964. This Houston-Haitian link might have been exposed as a plan for corporate exploitation of a Caribbean island involving guns and munitions suppliers to C.I.A.-supported conservatives, anti-Castro Cubans, and Syndicate figures, all with ties to the Artime- Somoza- Trujillo group, to the Lansky-McLaney organization, and to sinister figures in New Orleans and Dallas associated with Lee Harvey Oswald. The Warren Commission, for whatever reason, did not pursue this promising - if ominous - lead.

Whatever George de Mohrenschildt's actual role in the Kennedy mystery might have been, thirteen years later and just thirteen days after Santo Trafficante remained mute in response to a series of questions that touched on George de Mohrenschildt's world, the WhiteBaron allegedly committed suicide on March 29th, 1977.

**Charles Nicoletti**

Charles Crimaldi, the admitted Syndicate hitman who broke the Hoffa-C.I.A.-Syndicate story, also told House Select Committee investigators about still another Syndicate plotter against Castro: Charles Nicoletti. For a time, Nicoletti had been the boss of Chicago's gambling business. For the Syndicate- Agency plot, Charles Nicoletti seems to have been chosen to augment Trafficante's role in logistical planning for the Castro murder. But rather than pursuing the Castro assassination conspiracy, what the House Committee had in mind for Nicoletti was a series of questions on Jack Ruby.

According to Howard Kohn, an unnamed Ruby associate told the House Committee that Ruby had been called on to help arrange the freedom of three "mobsters" being held in prison by Castro, but the three were released before Ruby's negotiations had gone very far. One of the three was Santo Trafficante. Since the Committee was told that Ruby met with Trafficante in his Cuban jail cell, since we know the date of Trafficante's release, and we have Hall's admission he was imprisoned with Trafficante and another casino employee (Dick Russell identified Hall as a Capri employee), the three "mobsters" for whom Ruby was negotiating were probably Santo Trafficante, Henry Savaarda, and Loran Eugene Hall. With this obviously good lead for a partial confirmation of Ruby as a Lansky-Trafficante figure (commissioned to work for the release of Trafficante and two Trafficante associates), the Committee could have explored more of Ruby's Lansky, Hoffa, and Trafficante (and Cuban-exile) connections; Ruby's motive for killing Lee Harvey Oswald might then lead either to who killed John F. Kennedy or to why the president was murdered -- or both. But, according to Howard Kohn, the two Ruby stories were of greatest interest to the House investigators.

Ruby had been in touch with various figures associated with the "Teamsters and the Chicago underworld" prior to the assassination, as Kohn put it, in the "months preceding" the Kennedy murder. Though Kohn does not state it directly, Ruby's involvement in both the attempts against Castro and the Kennedy assassination was implied in the sources Kohn used. Kohn added one item which has not been known: that Ruby flew to Nevada to see McWillie before the assassination. What do we know about the Ruby-McWillie relationship in Nevada? McWillie was employed at the Thunderbird Hotel in Las Vegas in 1963; prior to his move to the Thunderbird, Ruby and McWillie had spoken to each other by telephone; and one of those phone calls resulted in Ruby's mailing McWillie a weapon which his friend requested. About a month before the assassination (and it is here that Warren Commission "lost track" of Ruby), one witness placed Ruby in Las Vegas at the Tropicana golf course; but several others did not remember seeing

him there around November 17th or 18th, 1963, the time the first witness thought he saw Ruby. McWillie, meanwhile, was allegedly working for Meyer Lansky at the Thunderbird. As of March 20th, 1964, a Hubert-Griffin memorandum still listed McWillie as an employee of the Thunderbird. The F.B.I. was interested in McWillie just before the assassination in regard to an "unrelated matter," according to an F.B.I. report. The Bureau revealed that, before leaving Cuba, McWillie had "solidified his association" with Santo Trafficante, the Lanskys, and Lansky's associate Dino Cellini. McWillie worked in Nevada as early as June, 1961, first at the Riverside Hotel in Reno, then at the Cal-Neva, where he left to go to Lansky's Thunderbird.

Kohn, however, reported that Ruby flew to Nevada to visit with McWillie who (in Kohn's version) was working at a casino reputedly owned (in part) by Sam Giancana, which would have been Sinatra's Cal-Neva. The time sequence is off; if Ruby visited with McWillie just months before the assassination, the visit would have had to occur at the Thunderbird, a Lansky casino; if a year before the assassination, then at the Cal-Neva. Peter Dale Scott speculated that as a result of news stories about Giancana appearing at the Cal-Neva (he was *persona non grata* with the Nevada Gaming Commission), his secret point-holding in the Cal-Neva was bandied about, and Frank Sinatra's license was endangered. The disclosure of a Giancana visit to his friend Sinatra's club was published in September, 1963, and Scott suspected the F.B.I. inquiries about McWillie just two days prior to the assassination might have been precipitated by that Giancana-Sinatra news story just two months earlier. Whether true or not, neither the F.B.I. nor Ruby would have found anything of McWillie at the Cal-Neva, except perhaps his expired work-card for that club (about which the Bureau made an inquiry); he was at the Thunderbird, as far as the public record has shown.

The flight of Jack Ruby to the Cal-Neva, therefore, is neither supported by any document in the public record nor is it consistent with the time schedule of McWillie's Nevada employment. Could the F.B.I. have known something, however, not in the public record? Did the Bureau have information about McWillie's location, not necessarily where he was working, but where (and with whom) he was meeting? Could the Bureau have discovered this information through its one-time "Potential Criminal Informant" Jack Ruby? If there is a contemporary reason for telling this story, is it to link Ruby with Giancana, whether or not such a link ever existed in the past?

What of the second Ruby incident that interested the House Committee? According to Kohn, the same witness who told the Committee about the Trafficante deal (and the Giancana- club meeting between Ruby and McWillie) also told Committee investigators that Ruby met Roselli in Miami two or three months before the assassination. Was the witness hinting at a Roselli-Ruby relation to the assassination? Kohn seems to have had access to the same "Confidential" memos which Jack Anderson had seen earlier: Roselli said "privately" the Syndicate commissioned Ruby to kill Oswald. Again, these Roselli- Ruby meetings are without support or corroboration. And the whole Anderson- Roselli story seems a strong attempt to implicate Castro in a Trafficante-Cuban assassination plot, with Oswald either involved or framed.

If there was a Ruby connection to the Kennedy assassination, it was a Lansky-Trafficante- Cuban exile connection; if there was a McWillie connection, it was a Lansky- Trafficante- Cuban exile connection; and a Ruby- McWillie connection would be redundant re-enforcement. The "Ruby" stories seem to have been attempts to move both Ruby and McWillie away from their known points of gravitation and toward Giancana and Roselli. These stories also made more sense when viewed as attempts by some C.I.A. sources (1) to take the "blame" for training the Cuban killers and then (2) to watch in horror as the creatures they created murdered Syndicate-F.B.I. witnesses and informers.

Kohn's "Miami source" transmitted the following essential points about the Cuban Syndicate organization. Nicoletti (a Giancana associate) was upset with the growing "intrusion" of Cubans into organized crime activities. The once-powerful boss of Chicago-area gambling also was "estranged" from the national crime group after Giancana's murder (this estrangement suggests Nicoletti was an informer, or had decided to inform to the F.B.I.), and, according to the *Washington Post*, Nicoletti believed the C.I.A. was running the Cuban smuggling operations. Nicoletti apparently saw no difference between Cubans trained and supported by the C.I.A. and the Agency itself. According to the *Post*, Nicoletti suspected the C.I.A. of deliberately protecting the Cubans' organized- crime activities. Kohn's "Miami source" identified the same group of Cubans as professional assassins (responsible for the murder of Giancana and the Letelier murders), and linked Bosch's group to the Cuban Syndicate organization. If true, these revelations from Kohn's source are important confirmation of one of the themes in this last chapter. According to Kohn, the Cubans were suspected of a series of Syndicate- associated hits (including the informant- intelligence hits I discussed earlier). The reported Galente- Trafficante drugs deal, coupled with the speculation that the .22 automatic-pistol assassins were

working (part of the time) for Galante, suggested that the long history of anti-Castro Cuban violence which escalated after the Bay of Pigs might be illuminated by the testimony of Charles Nicoletti, a top Syndicate figure who allegedly participated in the assassination plots against Castro, and who looked suspiciously on the Cubans in organized crime.

On March 28th, 1977, the House Select Committee staff began making phone calls in an attempt to reach Nicoletti; one day later, George de Mohrenschildt allegedly committed suicide, and, north across the American continent, on that same day - March 29th, 1977 - someone put three bullets into the back of Charles Nicoletti's head as he sat in his parked car.

If we follow the implications of the Kohn-House Committee scenario, either alleged Cuban-exile assassins killed a number of Castro-Kennedy witnesses, or someone hired the Cuban Syndicate hit people to kill, and the result was the deaths of Giancana, possibly Roselli, and Nicoletti. Charles Nicoletti could have helped explore those possibilities, but someone got to him before the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

### **Some Friends of Manuel Artime and E. Howard Hunt**

During the planning for the Bay of Pigs invasion, the C.I.A. coordinator for the operation, E. Howard Hunt (who served as its Chief of Political Action), submitted a memorandum to Richard Bissell and Tracy Barnes. Hunt recommended the operation include a plan to "Assassinate Castro before or coincident with the invasion (a task for Cuban patriots)." According to Hunt, Tracy Barnes responded by telling him that his recommendation had been put "in the hands of a special group." Manuel Artime, one of the key Bay of Pigs officers, and a close associate of Hunt, was subsequently involved in assisting Rolando Cubela (AMLASH) in assassination attempts on Castro, acting as Cubela's source of C.I.A. weapons and equipment. As late as 1965, Artime continued to plot the death of Fidel Castro. Involved in the murky and complex intrigues of Miami's "Little Havana" throughout the 1960s, Artime also managed to take an important part in the Nicaraguan- Somoza/ Cuban exile operations which supported the Lake Pontchartrain camp in Louisiana. Hunt was also active through the 1960s in those or associated anti-Castro activities and in Latin American "skullduggery," as his friend and co-worker Frank Sturgis called it.



On the morning of June 17th, 1972, some friends of Manuel Artime and E. Howard Hunt got into a bit of trouble with the Washington, D.C., police. Five of them were arrested in the offices of the Democratic National Committee, located in the Watergate complex. The attempted burglary seemed to have involved a man at the Howard Johnson Motel (across from the Watergate), Alfred Baldwin; E. Howard Hunt (in the street); and James McCord, Eugenio ("Rolando") Martinez, Bernard ("Macho") Barker, Virgilio Gonzalez, and Frank Fiorini/ Sturgis. Others associated with the planning of that break-in, or allegedly involved in the group's prior "burglaries" and operations, were Felipe de Diego, Reinaldo Pico, Angel Ferrer, and Pablo Fernandez. Humberto Lopez has also been named in one source, but little is known about him.

Investigation established that the "Watergate burglars" had registered by mail using stationary whose letterhead identified them as being with "Ameritas," a real-estate firm in Miami, Florida.

### **Carlos Prio Socarras**

Carlos Prio's greed caught up with him; allegedly taking a bribe from Meyer Lansky to allow Fulgencio Batista back into Cuba after having defeated him in the 1948 elections, Prio was forced to flee to Miami. Still, he seemed to have led a frugal life, so that despite his modest salary as president he was worth approximately \$30 million, according to one source, when he exited Cuba. In 1973, he was characterized as a "multi-millionaire" and reputedly had considerable sugar interests and land holdings in Puerto Rico as well as real estate in Miami (where he made his home).

Though Lansky supported Batista and the Cuban dictator reciprocated by protecting the reported Trafficante- Lansky gambling and narcotics operations in Cuba, the alleged chief of organized crime also maintained a good relationship with Prio, the former Cuban president. Prio had begun to work with anti-Batista groups in the 1950s, and he received considerable support from Frank Sturgis, who did some clandestine flying for Prio; Sturgis, in turn, was eventually to ingratiate himself with Fidel Castro. Though several sources have transmitted Prio's story of Castro's alleged "double- crossing" of Prio, some evidence suggests that Prio was interested in casino operations in Cuba, and, like his friend Lansky, was thwarted when the gambling centers were closed down. For whatever reason, Prio's support of Castro turned to active opposition, and he joined with others to depose Castro.

While he was still backing the revolutionary leader, Prio made arrangements for gunrunning and weapons- smuggling with at least two figures who subsequently became a part of the Kennedy assassination story: Jack Ruby and Robert McKeown. As it turned out, Ruby and McKeown also dealt with each other concerning Cuban affairs. The Prio-Ruby-McKeown relationships, however, were of little interest to the Warren Commission. Though Prio was mentioned several times in Commission testimony, he was neither deposed nor called as a witness. J. Edgar Hoover did write to J. Lee Rankin, on April 17th, 1964:

..Carlos Prio Socarras and a number of others including McKeown, was involved in a conspiracy to ship arms, munitions, and other war materials to Fidel Castro to assist him in his efforts to overthrow the Batista regime in Cuba.

Another F.B.I. report revealed that Prio had been the major owner of a gambling casino in Cuba, and that among Prio's partners was Jack Ruby. On December 21st, 1963, Jack Ruby admitted to F.B.I. agents that he had called someone in the Houston area who was "gun running to Cuba," and that Ruby thought he could act as an intermediary in a jeep or "other similar equipment" sale to people "interested in their importation to Cuba." On January 24th, 1964, F.B.I. agents confirmed that McKeown had been convicted on charges of conspiracy to smuggle weapons to Cuba. Fidel Castro had visited Houston in April, 1959, and McKeown was mentioned favorably: if McKeown wanted a Cuban post or franchises in Cuba, he need only ask, Castro was supposed to have said. On or about January 8th, 1960, a caller named "Rubenstein" contacted McKeown from Dallas, Texas, and remarked on McKeown's reported influence with Fidel Castro. Rubenstein said that he was attempting to get three people out of a Cuban prison, and that if McKeown could help get them out, an unnamed individual from Las Vegas would pay McKeown \$15,000. According to McKeown's F.B.I. interview, Rubenstein said he would clear the money transaction with Vegas and call McKeown back; but the caller allegedly failed to follow through. Three weeks later, McKeown maintained a man fitting Ruby's description offered him \$25,000 for a letter of introduction to Fidel Castro.

If both of the McKeown stories are true, then we have an associate of Carlos Prio, convicted of a conspiracy with Prio to smuggle arms to Fidel Castro, being contacted by another associate of Carlos Prio, who allegedly smuggled guns to Castro with Prio and shared an interest in a Cuban gambling casino. The two Prio associates, both of whom allegedly conspired to smuggle weapons to Castro in association with Carlos Prio, were negotiating about (1) valuable equipment,

according to Ruby, and (2) the release of Cuban prisoners and the introduction to Fidel Castro of one of the negotiators by the second, for unreported reasons (according to McKeown). If a Warren Commission investigator had placed such an analysis next to Carlos Prio's known associations with Meyer Lansky and Prio's known wealth, that investigator might have wanted to ask why a Syndicate-associated figure and a convicted gun smuggler, both of whom were former business partners (in gambling and gunrunning) of a Lansky friend, were negotiating about anything in 1959, especially since one of them was subsequently the murderer of the alleged assassin of the president in 1963. We know Castro was holding Santo Trafficante, Loran Eugene Hall, and Henry Savaarda, all associated with Lansky-Trafficante casinos, and (according to a friend of Ruby's) Ruby began negotiations for their release, visiting Trafficante in 1959. House Select Committee investigators, therefore, ought to ask Robert McKeown, Louis J. McWillie, Santo Trafficante, and Loren Eugene Hall if, in fact, the Ruby- McKeown- Trafficante negotiations were one and the same operation; those same investigators might also wish to ask if Ruby's Vegas contact was Meyer Lansky or a delegate of Meyer Lansky. The House investigators might also pursue the possibility that the Ruby-McKeown negotiations with Cuba were successful in getting the release of Trafficante and his two alleged casino co-workers. The investigators might finally wish to entertain the possibility that Carlos Prio was instrumental in bringing the principals together, since he knew and had worked with all of them: Lansky, and through Lansky, Trafficante, McWillie, Hall and Savaarda; and Ruby and Robert McKeown.

When President Eisenhower gave his approval to the National Security Council's anti-Castro recommendation, the Bay of Pigs project was begun. According to several sources, Carlos Prio then involved himself in recruiting Cuban exiles for the coming invasion of his homeland. In Washington, E. Howard Hunt began the search for an appropriate place to locate a new Cuban government-in-exile. He chose Costa Rica, then Mexico, but the political ambience was not suitable, he thought, in either country, and so he chose the next-best place: Miami, Florida, the territory of Meyer Lansky, Santo Trafficante, and Carlos Prio Socarras. One source has suggested that Trafficante's friend, Giancana, had his associate Richard Cain helping in the early recruitment and training; another source reported that Trafficante himself was involved. Of course, former Cuban president Prio was there too, searching Little Havana for likely Brigade candidates.

E. Howard Hunt organized the Cuban Revolutionary Front, and it began to rehearse its part in the invasion scenario. The Frente included, (1) Manuel Artime (of the MRR); (2) Jose Ignacio (of the MDC: Artime's MRR and Ignacio's MDC

shared members); appropriately, three former members of the Cuban government of Carlos Prio Socarras: (3) Justo Carillo, former bank supervisor; (4) Aureliano Sanchez Arango, former foreign minister (Sylvia Odio's parents were associated with him); and (5) Tony Varona, former prime minister, and the head of Hunt's new CRF. Prio's influence was self-evident in the choices E. Howard Hunt had made.

I have already recounted much of Carlos Prio's part in the larger conspiracies of the Caribbean Complex, of which the attempts on Castro were integral acts. Some of the groups Carlos Prio worked with were Miami-based, like the DMC (the Christian Democratic Movement); others, like Carlos Bringuier's DRE (which was politically and philosophically close to the DMC and shared membership with it) were New Orleans-based. Working out of Miami only increased the fever-level of already over-heated anti-Castro organizations. They operated inside the Cuban-exile population, with its exaggerated immigration problems; its manipulating, splintered politics; its violence in "solving" social and political issues; its involvement in drugs; its traffic in illegal guns and ammunition; its demeaning of its own women in prostitution. By March, 1977, the United States Customs would award the title of "cocaine capital of the world" to the Miami area, and most of that cocaine would be moved by the Cuban exiles, many of them trained by, and still loyal to, the C.I.A. and its control agents. In 1976, 35% of all the cocaine and 30% of all the pot seized in the United States would have been confiscated in or around "Little Havana."

Guns, drugs, duplicities; and, later, extortion, bombings, assassinations; the Cuban exodus from Castro's island was followed by a cynical exploitation of those thousands of people who loved their land. Before Castro took power, elements of American business, intelligence, and organized crime had formed what Peter Dale Scott called a "grey alliance" which internally traded-off influences and assets to achieve its ends. The Cuban heroin traffic was one area in which the three cooperated; after the war, and with dramatic escalation after the Castro take-over, that focus on Cuba was transferred to Miami. Businessmen, narcotics bosses, and politicians exploited the greater Miami area as if it were some Caribbean island. And Carlos Prio Socarras and his associates were part of that Caribbean-like exploitation.

Keyes Realty was also part of it. The real-estate firm was at one time involved in the bribery of a Dade County Sheriff - an attempt by the Syndicate to open up the area to unrestricted gambling. Real estate on Key Biscayne was handled by Keyes

Realty in its transfer to the Ansan Corporation, which included Jose Aleman, Sr., Carlos Prio's investment associate; Aleman's wife, Elena Santiero, the daughter of Lucky Luciano's attorney; and Anselmo Alliegro, Batista's investment partner. Some of these Ansan group individuals were actively involved in supporting the Lake Pontchartrain anti-Castro training camp in association with the Syndicate and the Minutemen. Those same Ansan investors dealt with people close to Jimmy Hoffa and the Teamsters Pension Fund, who gained control of the Key Biscayne real estate the Ansan Corporation had developed; in 1967, some of that land was passed on to Richard Nixon and "Bebe" Rebozo (Nixon's Cuban connection) through Donald Berg (the Secret Service suggested that Nixon cut his ties to Berg); and the Nixon mortgage was held by a Hoffa-Lansky associate.

The vice-president of Keyes Realty through 1971 was Eugenio ("Rolando") Martinez; with Carlos Prio's close friend, Bernard Barker, Martinez established a new real estate company (just a couple of doors down from Prio's office and in the same building as Keyes Realty). The nascent Martinez- Barker business was named "Ameritas." Miguel Suarez has been identified as a fellow founder and partner of Bernard Barker in his Ameritas venture; Suarez was an enthusiastic Nixon supporter, and at one time headed Republican Senator Gurney's election committee.

Like Barker and Martinez, Suarez also had close ties to Carlos Prio Socarras. Prio's former vice-president was Alonso Pujol, a wealthy Cuban who made his home in Venezuela; Alonzo Pujol's son was Guillermo Alonso Pujol y Bermudez, a business associate of Miguel A. Suarez and Bernard Barker. Alonso Pujol's other son, Jorge Alonso Pujol y Bermudez had been ransomed from Castro's prison for \$100,000 after being captured with the survivors of the Bay of Pigs Brigade; later, he was caught in a Miami narcotics bust in 1969; the other man involved, Juan Casar Restoy, with a record as a smuggler, resisted arrest and killed two law officers in the shootout. According to Justice Department sources, Juan Casar Restoy was one of the leaders of a Cuban-Syndicate operation responsible for 30% of the heroin and 75% of the cocaine brought into the United States. Before Restoy could be brought to trial, he was murdered. Howard Kohn reported that Miami Cuban sources believed Restoy was about to turn informer and implicate the Agency in the Cuban-exile narcotics traffic - but was "executed" by a C.I.A. assassination unit delegated the task of disposing of "double agents" (possibly the Agency-sponsored "Operation Forty"). Juan Restoy's lawyer was Miguel Suarez, the business associate of Martinez, Barker, and Prio.

Prio's friend and co-worker Bernard Barker had a colorful background. In 1945, he was reported to have been a member of Fulgencio Batista's secret police (but, according to one source, he joined the notorious Batista organization as an Agency penetration operative); at another time, Barker was supposed to have been in "narcotics intelligence." The Cuban Revolutionary Council (the CRC), which succeeded Hunt's Cuban Revolutionary Front, was organized and maintained by E. Howard Hunt and Bernard Barker. And Barker was not only involved in political action and covert intelligence; he was also reputedly associated with the Lansky-Trafficante Syndicate in the Miami area. C.I.A. Director Richard Helms confirmed Barker's organized-crime connections in testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on February 7th, 1973. According to Helms, Barker had at one time been severed from C.I.A. employment because the Agency reportedly discovered "he was involved in certain gambling and criminal elements." Helms' testimony on Barker was classified until March 5th, 1974.

Whether or not Richard Nixon knew Carlos Prio Socarras or the group with which he worked in Miami, he knew he was in Prio's and Prio's associates' debt both politically and financially. Prio and his business partner Barker had organized pro-Nixon demonstrations at the Miami Republican Convention; Suarez had supported Nixon in the Miami community, and had headed the election committee of the one senator on the Watergate Committee John Dean reported was Richard Nixon's certain Committee friend, Edward Gurney of Florida. Agustin Batista (of the Lake Pontchartrain supporters), a rich Cuban banker, had worked with Keyes Realty and its legal staff to transfer Key Biscayne real estate to the Ansan Corporation; Jose Aleman, Sr., a member of Ansan, had developed the property, and after it passed through the hands of Teamsters- associated figures, Bebe Rebozo and Richard Nixon were able to make a profit handling it. Agustin and Laureano Batista had employed Hans Tanner, Frank Sturgis' friend, in at least one attempt to assassinate Fidel Castro in the MDC's "Project 26." Nixon had negotiated with the MDC leader Mario Garcia Kohly at Burning Tree Golf course before the Nixon-Kennedy election, according to former C.I.A. employee Robert Morrow. Later, in 1965, Nixon acted in behalf of Kohly in an attempt to get him released from prison. After Bernard Barker and Eugenio Martinez set up Ameritas, Nixon's business associate Bebo Robozo was involved with the Martinez- Barker- Suarez realty firm.

Probably Miguel Suarez' most important client was Jose Aleman, Sr., Carlos Prio's investment partner; Aleman had literally owned Cape Florida, which ultimately became a state park, the favorite recreation place of the Cuban-exile

families in the area (Jose Aleman also built Miami Stadium and left it to his son Jose Jr.). Jose Aleman, Jr., was associated with Rolando Cubela and Eugenio Martinez; as allies, they were co-conspirators against Castro; and it is Aleman who matches the description of the F.B.I.'s "A" and the Bureau's "FBI informant" who had Syndicate associates capable of murdering Castro. Like "A," Aleman, Jr., supported Rolando Cubela Secades' clandestine activities; and it was Jose Aleman, Jr., associate of Santo Trafficante, who reported to the F.B.I. in his informant's role that Trafficante offered to get Aleman a Teamster loan. Miguel Suarez was Jose Aleman Sr.'s lawyer; he was also Jose Aleman Jr.'s attorney. Suarez was reportedly the founder and a partner of Barnard Barker and Eugenio Martinez of Ameritas, the real estate company which had continued the business practices of Keyes Realty. Barker's bank account (largely inactive) was at the Cuban-owned Republic National Bank in Miami; later, it would be activated - and have national consequences. Republic National had (1) a president who had worked in Cuba for Agustin Batista of the Ansan/Lake Pontchartrain group, (2) a former president had been the chairman of the Miami National Bank through which Meyer Lansky sent gambling money and (3) a former director who had been a member of the law firm for Keyes Realty.

When the money with which Bernard Barker was paid was traced in the Watergate investigation, it was found to have been deposited in his re-activated account at the Republic National Bank of Miami. The money was from Nixon campaign funds, illegally contributed. The Watergate bubble burst, and in the ensuing rush of stale air, the chief executive of the United States was blown away, the first president in American history to resign in disgrace from office. Barker had deposited five cashier's checks, one a check of \$25,000, an amount allegedly contributed by Dwayne Andreas, a midwestern soybean financier. Andreas and Kenneth Dahlberg were associates in a banking endeavor; they had applied for a federal charter which was pending at the time. After the Andreas contribution, the charter was quickly granted. But Dahlberg was also Nixon's Midwest fund-raiser and finance chairman. On April 9th, 1972, Andreas and Dahlberg met at a Miami golf course, and Andreas gave Dahlberg \$25,000 in cash, requesting of either Dahlberg or Maurice Stans that the Nixon organization not report the contribution. It was two days before the Campaign Financing Act deadline for unreported funds. Andreas' contribution was "hot," as Frank Mankiewicz called it. Dahlberg converted the money into a cashier's check and turned it over to Stans on April 10th, 1972. Stans, in turn, gave it to Hugh Sloan, Stans' treasurer. It was now three days after the Campaign Act deadline, and non-disclosure constituted violation of federal law. Four other cashier's checks totaling \$89,000 had, in the meantime, been

transmitted through the celebrated "Mexican laundry" to Stans. Robert Allen of Texas Gulf Resources sent \$100,000 (including \$89,000 which was either his own, or his company's, campaign contribution) to a defunct Gulf Resources subsidiary in Mexico; a Mexican lawyer was then paid an outstanding "legal bill" by the inoperative Gulf Resources dummy company; the lawyer then changed \$89,000 of the Allen \$100,000 into four cashier's checks, and they were sent to Penzoil Corporation of Houston; from there, the \$89,000 in cashier's checks was flown to Washington and delivered to Stans on April 5th. So Maurice Stans had five cashier's checks from "hot" (unreported and therefore illegal) contributions (the Mexican laundering process was also a violation of federal law). Stans gave the five checks to Gordon Liddy, and Liddy then passed them to Barnard Barker. Barker's rather moribund bank account at the Republic National Bank of Miami suddenly sprang to healthy life with a deposit of \$114,000. When the Watergate burglars were arrested, \$1,300 of that money was in their possession, and \$3,100 more was found at their hotel. All of the money, incredibly, was in (consecutive) new \$100 bills - according to one source, the apparent way the Agency paid for its jobs. One source reported that Barker had transmitted approximately \$111,000 to Nixon campaign people; the rest seemed to be for "burglary" expenses.

When the F.B.I. began to investigate the trail of the Barker money back to Mexico, the White House moved with fright and speed. According to John Ehrlichman and Bob Haldeman, the president asked them to urge C.I.A. Director Richard Helms and his Deputy Director, General Vernon Walters, to place the Agency between the F.B.I. and Mexico. Nixon suggested that they might argue a C.I.A. Mexican operation would be compromised if the Bureau were to dig too deeply. It did not work.

### **The Watergate Connection**

When E. Howard Hunt first organized his Cuban government-in-exile, he staffed it with three associates of Carlos Prio Socarras. Barnard Barker, a Prio partner, assisted Hunt in running the Cuban Revolutionary Council. After the Watergate arrests, a Barnard Barker (and Prio) associate, Manuel Artime, took part in assisting in the defense of the Hunt group, including contacting Mrs. Dorothy Hunt when White House money was being sent to the Watergaters. Before Watergate, Hunt had looked up his old partner Barnard Barker when Hunt was organizing the White House "Plumbers"; and with Prio's friend Barker, the Watergate group grew. The Plumbers/ Watergate group was made up predominantly of Prio-Barker associates.



Felipe de Diego was a member of the Bay of Pigs Brigade; he had been in U.S. Army Intelligence for four years; and according to Barker, his friend and employer, he was a veteran of the C.I.A.'s "Operation 40." Frank Sturgis has also admitted belonging to "Operation 40," allegedly an assassination squad for eliminating Manuel Artime's enemies among Cuban veterans of the Bay of Pigs. Barker himself had been identified as a member of "Operation 40." The drug bust in which Alonso Pujol (the client of Jose Aleman's lawyer) and Juan Restoy were arrested, "Operation Eagle," included some "Operation 40" people; later, in 1975, another major drug arrest garnered more "Operation 40" members, and the organization reportedly folded.

Virgilio Gonzalez arrived in Miami while Batista was still in power and worked in the anti-Batista underground, his home becoming a channel for war materials being sent to Castro. Like some of the Cuban Watergaters, he became disenchanted with Castro. One source reported that Gonzalez had been a member of *Organizacion Autentica*, a pro-Prio organization, for twenty-six years. He was arrested at the Watergate.

Pablo Fernandez was, according to Frank Mankiewicz, an important figure in the Gainesville Eight trial, reportedly offering The Vietnam Veterans Against the War fifteen machine guns in what looked like a police entrapment. Fernandez was an active anti-Castroite for some years as well as an informant for both the Miami police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Recruited by Bernard Barker, Fernandez had his air fare, accommodations, and other expenses paid for by his friend Barker when the Prio-oriented group helped disrupt alleged anti-Hoover demonstrations at the Bureau Director's Washington funeral.

Reinaldo Pico, a Bay of Pigs veteran, was a C.I.A. employee in the The Cuban Revolutionary Democratic Workers Front, a C.I.A.-supported organization which spent most of its time breaking up labor meetings (which the Front called "Communist") throughout Latin America. Pico was recruited by Barker, and, with Fernandez and Sturgis, handled some of the muscle work for the Barker-Hunt group. When Pico was informed the Barker Cubans had been arrested at the Watergate, he left quietly for Venezuela, believing the break-in had been set up.

Eugenio Martinez was a partner of Miguel Suarez and Barnard Barker in Ameritas; he was a Bay of Pigs veteran; and he was a key JMWAVE operative. When the Watergate burglars were arrested, he was still in the employ of the Agency. Richard Helms down-played Martinez's importance, but one source identified Martinez as an important "conduit" for intelligence coming in from Cuba which Martinez then passed on to his C.I.A. control in Miami. He was arrested at the Watergate.

Angel Ferrer's connection to the Watergate burglars may only be that he was registered at the Watergate hotel when the Hunt-McCord group broke into Democratic Headquarters; Ferrer was not arrested by the police. He was, however, associated with an anti-Castro paramilitary movement called the Ex-Combatientes, and trained its exile troops at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Among Prio's associates were at least two Cubans who had past associations with Batista's police: Barnard Barker and Miguel Suarez, the Aleman lawyer whose father had been Chief of Police under dictator Batista. And Miguel Suarez was a member of the Ex-Combatientes which included Angel Ferrer. A curious story out of the Philadelphia F.B.I. office's investigation following the assassination suggested that Suarez may have been involved - deliberately or not - in the spread of assassination disinformation. According to a Philadelphia nurse who reported the incident to the F.B.I., a Cuban woman named Christina Suarez said her brother Miguel had predicted the assassination, but attributed its planning to pro-Castroites. Attempting to verify this story, two Kennedy researchers called Suarez's Miami office and allegedly talked to him. Miguel Suarez denied he *had* a sister.

Angel Ferrer's partner, Ramon Orozoco Crespo, was the bodyguard of Maurice Ferre, identified in an F.B.I. report dated October 2nd, 1964, as "a member of the FERRE family with extensive holdings in South Florida and Puerto Rico." According to that same Bureau report, Sylvia Odio was called by the F.B.I. "to arrange an interview," but she told the Bureau

...she had an appointment at 11:30 AM that date with her doctor. The interview was then set for 1:00 PM. Shortly after making this arrangement for interview, Mr. MAURICE FERRE...contacted the Miami Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to state he is a personal friend of SYLVIA ODIO. He wished to advise that ODIO was then under the care of Dr. IRWIN JACOBS, psychiatrist, at Miami, and had attempted suicide the past week.

Ferre's associations with Crespo and Ferrer suggest his motive for informing the F.B.I. of Sylvia Odio's alleged psychiatric difficulties might have been other than public-spirited. According to an F.B.I. report, Loran Eugene Hall maintained he was introduced to Sylvia Odio by Kiki Ferrer (also known as Ferrer or Masferrer) and, in the first version of his Odio story, a few days later visited Odio with William Seymour and Lawrence Howard (both of whom have been linked to the C.I.A.-mercenary- Cuban exile operations against Fidel Castro). Hall said that Kiki Ferrer/Masferrer lived in the same Magellan Circle- Crestwood Apartments in Dallas as

Sylvia Odio. Kiki Ferrer was the brother of Rolando Masferrer, the notorious Batista associate who allegedly worked with the Bringuier-Bosch groups in New Orleans and who was an alleged Jack Ruby contact. Masferrer was a member of the Christian Democratic Movement whose membership overlapped with Frank Sturgis' International Anti- Communist Brigade (IAB). As I previously noted, Masferrer was assassinated in 1975, and Orlando Bosch's group is suspected of the murder. Sylvia Odio, however, denied knowing anyone named Kiki Ferrer or Ferrer, but did state she knew of a "Cuban family...surnamed MASFERRER" living in the Crestwood Apartments, and that the family had been involved in a violent altercation which eventually needed the intervention of the Dallas police. The Masferrer family to which Odio referred included Kiki and Rolando Masferrer. Did Angel Ferrer, the associate of Ramon Crespo (the bodyguard of Sylvia Odio's friend, Maurice Ferre), belong to this same Ferrer/Masferrer family? And was Angel Ferrer the "Angelo" who visited Sylvia Odio with "Leon" Oswald? Were the three Odio visitors John Thomas Masen (impersonating Lee Harvey Oswald), Antonio Veciana (calling himself "Leopoldo"), and Angel Ferrer (calling himself "Angelo")?

The House Select Committee should be interested in obtaining testimony from Angel Ferrer on (1) his relationship to the Watergate Prio-Barker group, (2) his possible relationship to the Prio- Barker- Suarez (Aleman) circle, and (3) his possible relationship to Loran Eugene Hall, Kiki Ferrer/ Masferrer, Antonio Veciana, John Thomas Masen, and Sylvia Odio.

Carl Oglesby has suggested that James McCord was a C.I.A. penetration agent into the Watergate group who blew the whistle on the president and precipitated his fall; Norman Mailer has suggested that McCord was an F.B.I. deep-cover man (he was a Bureau spy-chaser during the war, but I have been unable to establish whether he knew or worked with either Robert Maheu or Guy Banister). Mailer suggested that McCord's job was a career penetration of the C.I.A. for the F.B.I.; McCord's Howard Johnson's man, Alfred Baldwin, was a former F.B.I. man, and Baldwin's conduct during and after the break-in suggested double-agentry, or ineptness, or both (Baldwin was involved in the Martha Mitchell incident in which Mitchell maintained she was forcibly restrained and drugged).

In an otherwise perceptive and highly-relevant study of the Senate Watergate Committee, Fred D. Thompson wrote of Barnard Barker in two minor passages. Given what was in the public record, or at least what was available with some investigative digging, I was surprised that Thompson did not find as much about

Barker as he did about Sturgis (and Jack Anderson). But then the Democratic side of the Watergate Committee did not come up with the Barker material, either. According to one source, Barker has now claimed a much more important part in the operations around Watergate, including the leadership of "Operation Diamond," a band of more than 120 Cuban exiles who were allegedly capable of kidnapping, "confinement," "removal," and "political assassination."

Whether the Watergate group was set up or not (some have suggested by McCord, some Baldwin, and some Jack Anderson, through Frank Sturgis), the consequence of giving E. Howard Hunt the freedom (or the command) to recruit Carlos Prio Socarras's associate, Barnard Barker, was the staffing of the Hunt group with Prio people who could be easily linked to the Lansky-Trafficante/ C.I.A./ Cuban-exile plots against Castro. E. Howard Hunt, with a past history of close relationships to associates of Carlos Prio, recruited an associate of Carlos Prio, who in turn recruited at least five Prio associates for the Plumbers/ Watergate group. The Stans-Sloan-Liddy money was placed in a Ansan-Lansky bank in the account of a partner and associate of Miguel Suarez whose links to the Ansan group, Jose Aleman, Jr., and the Cuban-exile movement in support of Nixon were obvious. Through Prio, Barker, Suarez, and their associate Aleman, the whole Ansan/ Artime/ Somoza/ Syndicate/ Minutemen operation at Lake Pontchartrain (and the attempted penetration of it by Oswald through Bringuier) was available to any Watergate investigator who looked far enough. Was this Prio- Pontchartrain connection what Nixon was talking about when he worried about "the whole Bay of Pigs thing"?

Current revelations exposing the relations between Aleman and Trafficante can mean that someone had been energized to begin re-building the Kennedy-assassination cover-up. The key was Carlos Prio Socarras. After Charles Nicoletti and George de Mohrenschildt died (each, in his own way, an important part of the Caribbean complexities which took their toll in Dealey Plaza on November 22nd, 1963), the man with obvious Lansky-Trafficante-Ansan connections, and with still more obvious connections to Watergate, Carlos Prio, was the most vital witness the House Select Committee on Assassinations could have interrogated. That witness might have clarified why Santo Trafficante called a meeting with Jose Aleman, Jr., in September, 1962, and why that relationship continued at least through the summer of 1963, with a Teamster "loan" of over \$1 million promised to Aleman by Trafficante with Jimmy Hoffa's approval. *What did Santo Trafficante ask in return?*

For an answer to that question, we must now inquire of Aleman and Trafficante; Carlos Prio Socarras, reputedly a millionaire thirty times over, was alleged to have talked at length to his "brother" on Tuesday, April 4th, 1977, and grown morose over "financial" matters; one week after Charles Nicoletti was murdered in Chicago and George de Mohrenschildt allegedly ended his own life, Carlos Prio Socarras went to his garage and reportedly shot himself in the chest. A police report indicated "shots" were heard. Prio died of a single wound in the chest on April 5th, 1977.

### **Ilona Marita Lorenz and Frank Fiorini Sturgis**

The admitted mistress of Premier Fidel Castro, Ilona Marita Lorenz, conspired with Frank Fiorini Sturgis, and later with C.I.A.- employee Alexander Rorke and his associate Frank Sturgis, to poison Premier Fidel Castro. Ilona Marita Lorenz should be asked by House Select Committee on Assassinations investigators if she has known (and under what circumstances) Carlos Prio Socarras; Santo Trafficante, Jr.; William K. Harvey, Jr.; Norman Rothman; Hymie Levin; Sam and Gabriel Mannarino; Jose Aleman, Jr.; Jack Leon Ruby, and Louis J. McWillie. We know that Lorenz has known Frank Sturgis.

Frank Sturgis has admitted to a close association with Carlos Prio Socarras. What he has denied is any relation to organized crime; and he has consistently dismissed any involvement of the Syndicate in the assassination of John F. Kennedy. But, according to a number of sources, Frank Sturgis has been "heavily involved" with the Syndicate, in particular, the same Lansky- Trafficante group to which Jack Ruby can be linked. L. Patrick Grey, acting F.B.I. director at the time of the Watergate break-in, prepared a detailed memorandum on Sturgis he originally intended to send to Nixon's aide, H.R. Haldeman; he did not. We are not told why he did not send that possibly-crucial information. After reviewing the number of aliases under which Sturgis had operated, Grey summarized: "Sources in Miami say he is now associated with organized crime activities...."

After Richard Nixon made his 1958 goodwill call on Marcos Perez Jimenez, the dictator of Venezuela, and publicly announced his support of the Latin-American strong man, Jimenez was thrown out and took up residence in Miami Beach, living in a \$400,000 home on Pine Tree Drive, where several Lansky-Trafficante associates had their residences, including Trafficante's alleged Capri partner, Charles Tourine. In 1955, Tourine had resided in Havana; by 1959, he was back in the Miami area. Ed Reid identified Tourine as a member of the Vito Genevese family (linked to both Trafficante and, through Nancy Perrin Rich's

Warren Commission testimony, to Jack Ruby). Tourine's Pine Tree Drive neighbor, ex-Venezuelan dictator Marcos Perez Jimenez, maintained a clutch of sports cars, some fast pleasure boats on the Bay, a "small army of guards," and reportedly had millions deposited in Swiss bank accounts. He also had an attractive seventeen-year-old daughter. Lansky- delegate Mike McLaney and his friend Harry Brook had earlier gone to London to explore the possibilities of some fog-bound gambling casinos. Harry Brook was an alleged gambling associate of Moe Dalitz and lived north of Miami Beach at the Teamsters Union's Blair House (which could also boast of tenants like Jimmy Hoffa and Gil Beckley). After their London assignment, McLaney and Brook split up, McLaney heading for the Bahamas and Brook for Puerto Rico, and again both were reportedly negotiating for casinos. But McLaney had to return to Florida: Marcos Perez Jimenez's young daughter had caught the eye of Lee McLaney, Mike McLaney's twenty-year-old son, and the two had eloped. McLaney's friend Harry Brook hosted the reception for the McLaney- Jimenez union at the Fountainebleau, just across Indian Creek from Charles Tourine's mansion. I have not been able to discover if either Charles Tourine or Jimenez's reported mistress, Ilona Marita Lorenz, attended the reception.

In a recent interview, Lorenz's co-conspirator Frank Sturgis admitted conferring with Carlos Prio Socarras about helping Fidel Castro when the rebel leader was still in the Escambray Mountains, suggesting the possibility that *Prio commissioned Sturgis as a double agent before Sturgis ever went to Cuba*. When Sturgis was in Oriente Province, he made his Castro contact through the general manager of the Manzanillo Coca-Cola plant; Manuel Ocarberro Rodriguez, who became the leader of Alpha 66 at 3126 Harlendale Avenue, Dallas, worked for Coca-Cola in Cuba both before and during Castro's regime. Were Rodriguez and Sturgis in contact with each other in Cuba? Sturgis has also admitted to a Havana American Embassy association (possibly through a "Major Van Horn"), allegedly recruiting a large number of people in an anti- Castro counter- espionage ring. Later, both Sturgis and Ambassador Earl Smith (whose name appeared in Jack Ruby's notebook), testified before the Internal Security Subcommittee (with Pedro Diaz Lanz) about alleged Communist influence in the C.I.A. contingent stationed at the American Embassy in Cuba.

Sturgis worked for Pastorita Nunez, Castro's minister in charge of Cuban casinos, and licensed the tables at \$1500 apiece (for what period of time, Sturgis has not said). With, let us say, only one hundred tables in operation, Sturgis would have handled at least \$150,000 in Syndicate money. As the admitted double agent commented, "I made my presence known to all the casino operators...."

Sturgis confirmed he was offered \$1 million by a Syndicate representative in Cuba to assassinate Castro; on November 22nd, 1976, Sturgis told us that reputed Syndicate figure Hymie Levine (possibly representing Lansky- Trafficante-Rothman- Mannarino interests) contacted him about killing Castro while Sturgis was still with the Cuban leader. In 1947, Jack Ruby came to Dallas (with Paul Roland Jones) probably as a Guzik-Levine delegate. In an interview with *High Times*, Sturgis claimed to have engineered at least five assassination attempts against the Cuban premier, two with Ilona Marita Lorenz in 1959 and 1960 - getting as far as dropping poison capsules in Castro's coffee.

On August 23rd, 1973, the *Dallas Times Herald* carried an Associated Press story which reported Frank Sturgis and five others, including Jerry Buchanan (Sturgis's IAB associate and one of the alleged conduits for the spurious Oswald stories that flooded the Miami area after the Kennedy assassination) had been indicted by a federal grand jury in Miami for conspiracy to transport stolen cars across the Mexican border. The cars were allegedly stolen between 1968 and 1970 by an organized car-theft ring in Texas and transported to Mexico for illicit sale. At least one commentator on the career of the convicted Watergate burglar suggested that Sturgis might have been motivated by reasons other than patriotic in some of his activities.

But the most explicit charges linking Frank Sturgis to organized crime have come from Howard Kohn, in a *Rolling Stone* article dated May 20th, 1976, and bolstered with what seems to be highly-reliable C.I.A. sources. According to Kohn, the Syndicate's chief delegate in the planning for the Bay of Pigs operation was Santo Trafficante; in turn, according to the investigative reporter, Trafficante's delegate was Frank Sturgis. Kohn maintained that Sturgis "defected" only after Castro closed the gambling casinos. Trafficante's and the Agency's interests dove-tailed, according to Kohn, since the Lansky-Trafficante skimming and laundering system for the Syndicate's gambling money was also being utilized by the C.I.A. to cover secret funds for payments to Agency-hired Syndicate figures. Kohn cited Sturgis' fellow soldier- of- fortune Richard Whattley (or Whately, as the name appeared in an F.B.I. document on Loran Eugene Hall and Gerry Patrick Hemming), who said that Sturgis was visited a number of times by Santo Trafficante himself. Sturgis has admitted being a member of "Operation Forty" (as were other Prio and Artime associates), the special Agency-sponsored assassination unit; in at least two discussions of this organization, Sturgis has hinted that either "Operation Forty" or another related group had domestic assassination capability, initiated by a friend "who was a CIA agent," according to Sturgis. Kohn reported that "sources in

Miami" confirmed that Trafficante had infiltrated "Operation Forty" with both Syndicate money and personnel. Sturgis's associate Richard Whattley (who took part in the mercenary-phase of the Bay of Pigs operation) commented: "Trafficante would order Sturgis to move his men and he'd do it." According to Kohn, Whattley concluded that Santo Trafficante was Sturgis's financial backer and boss; Hans Tanner, associated with at least one anti-Castro assassination attempt, also believed Sturgis's IAB was funded and controlled by Syndicate figures who ran the Lansky-Trafficante gambling operations in Batista's Cuba. Oddly enough, Sturgis has remained silent about these serious accusations, reacting strongly to the much milder L. Patrick Grey charges repeated in one Kennedy assassination study.

Ilona Marita Lorenz should be asked about her friend Frank Sturgis' possible relationship to the Lansky- Trafficante Syndicate group which has operated in the Miami area since the time she was the reputed mistress of Charles "The Blade" Tourine, a close associate of Santo Trafficante.

Frank Sturgis admitted two years ago (to Kennedy researchers) and to us in 1976 that he knew Louis J. McWillie, Mike McLaney, the Lansky brothers, Charles Tourine, and Santo Trafficante. Sturgis might have made one admission too many. On September 20th, 1977, Ilona Marita Lorenz alleged that she accompanied Frank Sturgis, Pedro Diaz Lanz, and Orlando Bosch, around November 20th, 1963, on a trip to Dallas from Miami. She also asserted that Lee Harvey Oswald was with them; but Lorenz was mistaken; as far as the public record shows, Oswald did not have the day off. She asserted that all of the people with whom she drove were members of "Operation 40," and that when the group reached Dallas, a decision was made to send her home. Lorenz said she was on a plane for New York when the assassination was announced.

Lorenz's dubious revelation was a sad moment for Frank Sturgis. A number of times the soldier of fortune has been cited by himself and by his friends as rebuffing the dark advances of Lee Harvey Oswald in the Miami area, though the reports have later turned out to be false, according to the F.B.I. agents who investigated the Oswald- in- Miami stories. Sturgis was reduced to responding with a denial that wiped out all his Oswald stories: "...to the best of my knowledge, I never met Oswald."

The woman who allegedly acted as a double agent in a poisoning attempt on her own lover, Fidel Castro, allegedly with the cooperation of two C.I.A. employees; who has allegedly been the mistress of a Latin American dictator reportedly associated with Miami organized- crime figures; and who has been the reputed mistress of an associate of Santo Trafficante, put the wood to Frank Sturgis.



A falling out had occurred.

### **Lee Harvey Oswald and the F.B.I.**

In April or May, 1975, *The Dallas Times Herald* received information concerning an alleged visit to the Dallas F.B.I. office by Lee Harvey Oswald, ten to fourteen days before the Kennedy assassination. The Bureau office, in the Santa Fe Building on Commerce St., was within walking distance of the Texas School Book Depository Building at Dealey Plaza. According to the *Times Herald*, the newspaper learned that Oswald had left an envelope containing a note after asking for an F.B.I. agent by name, and that just after the murder of Oswald by Jack Ruby, the letter had been destroyed. *Dallas Times Herald* publisher Tom Johnson decided to delay publication until he had checked the story with F.B.I. sources. He met with J. Gordon Shanklin, a former Bureau Special Agent- in- Charge for Dallas; Shanklin advised Johnson to contact Deputy Associate Director James Adams at Bureau headquarters.

On July 6th or 7th, 1975, Tom Johnson of the *Dallas Times Herald*, F.B.I. Director Clarence Kelley, and Associate F.B.I. Director James Adams met in Washington, where the Oswald story was told to the two F.B.I. officials. On July 8th, the Attorney General was advised that "the Bureau intended to conduct an inquiry regarding these allegations." The ensuing internal investigation "failed to develop any information indicating that Oswald had ever visited the FBI field office in Dallas or that he had left a note." But according to the Schweiker Report, subsequent F.B.I. interviews with Bureau personnel attached to the Dallas office in 1963 confirmed that:

- (1) Lee Harvey Oswald did visit the office  
some two or three weeks prior to the assassination;
- (2) Oswald asked to see SA James Hosty, and upon  
being informed that he was not in, left a note for  
Hosty; and
- (3) the note was destroyed after the assassination.

The Schweiker Report noted that the F.B.I. internal investigation was unable to establish:

- (1) whether the note was threatening in nature; and
- (2) at whose instruction the note was destroyed.

The Schweiker Report reviewed what had been the most sensational 1975 Kennedy assassination story in three short pages ("THE FBI AND THE DESTRUCTION OF THE OSWALD NOTE") in the second appendix to the Committee's basic document. According to the Dallas office's "receptionist," the "envelope was unsealed and the note was partly visible." Somehow, the receptionist was able to read this "partly visible" note in its entirety, and it was this reading of the Oswald note which made the headlines, since according to her testimony, it included "a warning I [Oswald] will blow up the FBI and the Dallas Police Department if you don't stop bothering my wife." Hosty, to whom the note was addressed, did not corroborate the receptionist's recollection; the F.B.I. agent remembered that the note warned: "If you don't cease bothering my wife, I will take appropriate action and report this to proper authorities." The receptionist's version, of course, was the one which was given media coverage, and Oswald's "violent" character again was the issue.

*The Dallas Times Herald* announced the story on August 31st, 1975, with an enormous headline: "Oswald threat revealed," though no evidence existed for such an assertion. The Schweiker Report, "APPENDIX B," corrected the public record, but the damage was done: "FBI destroyed threat note from Oswald" and "Note from Oswald threatened to bomb FBI" shouted the headlines in August and September, 1975. On June 19th, 1975, Sam Giancana had been murdered; on July 30th, 1975, Jimmy Hoffa had disappeared; on August 31st, the *Dallas Times Herald* broke the Oswald- F.B.I. story; on October 5th, 1975, Rolando Masferrer was murdered, but the loss of this important witness to Oswald's New Orleans period was ignored. Even the federal grand jury proceedings involving Hoffa's disappearance were eclipsed by the "new" Oswald revelations.

An unnamed Dallas F.B.I. source was extremely talkative, offering the *Dallas Times Herald* information and opinion which emphasized the "threatening" character of the alleged note and characterized the alleged destruction of the note as "a bureaucratic screwup" that would further "damage the FBI." Several versions of this anonymous Bureau source's commentary were aired for a number of days, with an added theme now recurring regularly: "The letter didn't threaten Kennedy." The President was not mentioned, the *Dallas Times Herald* reported. "FBI secretary" Nancy Fenner, allegedly the first person to read Oswald's note addressed to F.B.I. agent Hosty, had maintained it was a bomb threat, but refused to comment on the *Times Herald* story. Investigators for the F.B.I.'s Inspection Division found that some unidentified Bureau agents believed the letter contained no threat; others asserted the "threat" was "non-specific"; still others "confirmed" Nancy Fenner's

alleged reading. By September 7th, 1975, the *Times Herald* had found no fewer than six Dallas agents and a Dallas F.B.I. clerk who alleged they had knowledge of the Oswald note.

On September 17th, 1975, the *New York Times* cited an unnamed source who reported the decision to destroy the Oswald note came from the highest authority in the F.B.I. - J. Edgar Hoover and his top aides. That same week, *Time* magazine also reported on the incident, citing "FBI sources close to the investigation," and named John P. Mohr, former F.B.I. administrative chief, and three of his top aides, Nicholas P. Callahan, James B. Adams, and Eugene W. Walsh as culpable. *Time* pointed out what was probably one of the important if covert meanings of the Oswald flap: the "trio" was reputed to be running the F.B.I., despite Clarence M. Kelly's new Directorship, getting their counseling from the retired but still powerful Mohr.

Representative Don Edwards (a former F.B.I. agent) and his House Civil and Constitutional Rights Subcommittee held a hearing on the Oswald note and its destruction, and Deputy Associate Director James B. Adams confirmed the existence of the note and the destruction of the note just two hours after Oswald's murder, insisting that the note did not mention the president "*or anything which would have forewarned of the assassination of the President....*" Adams was unable to supply motivation for the decision to destroy the note.

Why did Adams feel it necessary to assert that Oswald's hand-delivered note had not "*forewarned of the assassination*"? Is it possible that the note, in fact, *had* warned agent James Hosty of a threat to the president? And, if the Oswald note had done so, was *that* the motivation for destroying the letter?

James B. Adams testified that the Bureau's internal probe left

...no doubt that Lee Harvey Oswald visited our Dallas field office prior to the assassination of President Kennedy and that he left a handwritten note there for the special agent who was conducting our subversive activities investigation of him.

According to F.B.I. agent James Hosty, he had returned from taking part in an Oswald interrogation and was confronted with the Oswald note by Agent-in-Charge, J. Gordon Shanklin, who demanded an explanation and a formal memorandum. Two hours after Oswald's death, according to Hosty, Shanklin ordered him to destroy the note and the memorandum. The evidence was flushed away.

Representative Don Edward's F.B.I. Oversight Subcommittee had held its hearing focusing on the F.B.I.'s relationships to both Oswald and Jack Ruby; it made eight specific demands on the Bureau for information and documentation; it was never heard from again on these matters. One day later, on October 22nd, 1975, the F.B.I. was let off the hook: the Justice Department announced it had decided not to press charges against anyone involved in the alleged destruction of the Oswald note. Richard Thornburgh, chief of the Justice Department's Criminal Division, had made the decision not to prosecute. James B. Adams supplied Edwards's subcommittee with a letter from Deputy Attorney General Harold Tyler to the F.B.I. Director Clarence M. Kelley which pointed out that the (five-year) statute of limitations on any possible crimes that may have attended the destruction of Oswald's note had expired. Whether this reading of the law was much too narrow was not questioned. The note was certainly evidence in at least one murder - and possibly in two or three murders - whose destruction could have made those involved liable to charges of accessories after the fact, for example. Deputy Attorney General Tyler did point out that it was "technically possible" to bring charges of perjury against both present and past F.B.I. agents who had given conflicting testimony, but he stated that the Criminal Division's head, Richard Thornburgh, had decided not to make such a move. One wonders what non-technical perjury would be. The *Times* again cited an unnamed source who reported the decision to destroy the note had come from the Bureau's top authority.

On Sunday, October 26th, 1975, the unnamed source was identified by *Time* magazine. William C. Sullivan, former head of the F.B.I.'s Domestic Intelligence Division at the time of the Kennedy assassination, and for a brief period the number three man in the Bureau behind J. Edgar Hoover and Clyde Tolson, alleged that no fewer than ten top officers of the F.B.I. were aware of Oswald's note. According to Sullivan, John P. Mohr, administrative chief of the F.B.I. and one of the most powerful Hoover aides until his 1972 retirement, gave the direct order to J. Gordon Shanklin to destroy the Oswald letter. Sullivan asserted that Hoover deliberately withheld information as to the note's existence from the Warren Commission and its counsel. John P. Mohr immediately denied he had knowledge of the letter or that he had ordered it to be destroyed.

The Oswald note had become an instrument in the power struggle within the F.B.I. in particular and the American intelligence community in general. Sullivan maintained that F.B.I. Director Kelley was "surrounded" by Mohr loyalists, including James Adams, Nicholas Callahan, and four others. The former chief of the Bureau's Domestic Intelligence Division alleged that six top officers of the F.B.I.

were under John P. Mohr's "rigid discipline" rather than in Kelley's control. Mohr was involved in a "separate civil suit" not related to the Oswald investigation in which he had been forced to publicize the list of 39 individuals who attended his lengthy poker parties held at the Blue Ridge Club near Harper's Ferry, West Virginia. The party list was a Who's Who of American domestic and clandestine intelligence, including past and present F.B.I. and C.I.A. operatives and agents. Most prominent was James Angleton, the C.I.A.'s former head of domestic counterintelligence, who had requested he run the Agency's Warren Commission investigation. In 1974, Angleton had retired under fire after charges had been brought against him for directing a number of the C.I.A.'s illegal domestic spying operations, including its New York letter- cover activities (in cooperation with the F.B.I.). Sullivan was therefore attacking the conservative Mohr- Angleton wing of the F.B.I.-C.I.A. combination whose members Sullivan alleged had knowledge of the destruction of the Oswald letter, participated in the twelve-year cover-up, and still controlled the F.B.I. for John P. Mohr.

The publicity attending the Oswald- F.B.I. disclosures tended to overshadow another investigation going on simultaneously: the Senate Intelligence Committee's probe into F.B.I. and C.I.A. illegal mail openings from 1953 through 1973. C.I.A. Director Richard Helms, who directed the Agency's Kennedy assassination probe - and to whom James Angleton reported in that same investigation - had testified earlier in 1975 that Attorney General John Mitchell had been informed of the Agency's covert mail-cover operation and had not objected. Mitchell denied he had been informed of actual illegal letter-opening. It was, of course, because of the exposure of this letter- opening operation that James Angleton made his decision to retire. At least one agent under indictment in 1977 in that F.B.I. letter-cover activity was counting on a key witness in his defense; that witness, William C. Sullivan, would probably testify that the orders to use illegal wiretaps and mail interceptions came from the top of the F.B.I. hierarchy.

Before the Schweiker subcommittee of the Church Intelligence Committee in 1975, James Hosty testified that J. Gordon Shanklin, Special Agent- in- Charge of the Dallas F.B.I. office at the moment of the Kennedy assassination, had instructed Hosty to flush the memorandum on the Oswald note and the note itself. Shanklin, under oath, denied he had given the order. Someone, it seems, had committed perjury.

William C. Sullivan was a primary witness to an F.B.I.-C.I.A. domestic intelligence operation which may have intercepted Lee Harvey Oswald's communications to and from the Soviet Union; he was a primary witness to

Oswald's possible connections to the American intelligence community, in particular, the F.B.I.; and he was a primary witness to a top-level cover-up after the assassination involving, according to Sullivan, J. Edgar Hoover and John P. Mohr, the latter closely associated with James Angleton of the C.I.A.'s domestic counterintelligence branch.

On November 9th, 1977, just before daybreak near Sugar Hill, New Hampshire, William C. Sullivan paused for a moment in an open field; he was on his way to a meeting with two hunting companions. Sullivan wore a red-checked hunting cap. 243 feet away, a New Hampshire state trooper's son (armed with a powerful deer- hunting rifle with a mounted scope) took aim. William C. Sullivan died immediately after being hit by the hunting round. New Hampshire authorities immediately characterized the shooting as a hunting accident (Sullivan had been mistaken for a deer), and no charges were brought against the young man who allegedly fired the weapon. With Sullivan's death, another key witness to Oswald's possible intelligence identity and to the admitted intelligence cover-up following the assassination was lost.

But despite that crucial loss, several important questions about the Oswald note can be asked and, I think, can be answered by the House Select Committee on Assassinations. Was the Oswald note known to someone other than agents of the Dallas F.B.I. office prior to the assassination? Was Oswald's visit to the Commerce St. office of the Bureau known to someone other than the F.B.I., and was that visit testified to before the Warren Commission? Was knowledge of the note's existence (probably) transmitted to the F.B.I. and definitely communicated to the Warren Commission in 1964? Was a copy of the Oswald letter made by someone other than an agent of the F.B.I.? And was the individual who possessed a copy of the Oswald letter in touch with the F.B.I. both before and after the assassination? The answer to all of these questions, according to the Warren Commission's public record, is yes.

Marina Oswald testified that sometime after November 1st, 1963,

Lee had told me that supposedly he had visited their [the F.B.I.'s] office or their building. But I didn't believe him.

Ruth Paine testified that following the weekend after November 2nd, 1963, Lee Harvey Oswald told her that

...he had stopped at the downtown office of the FBI and tried to see the agents and left a note.... He was irritated and he said, "They are trying to inhibit my activities." ...I learned only a few weeks ago that he never did go into the FBI office.

How did Ruth Paine learn that Oswald "never did go into the FBI office"? Did Agent James Hosty tell Ruth Paine no such visit had occurred? Ruth Paine also testified that on Saturday morning, November 9th, 1963, Oswald had asked permission to use her typewriter, then "concealed" what he was typing before he left the room (did Oswald want Ruth Paine to see what he was working on?). On Sunday morning, Ruth Paine read Oswald's "whole note" - a draft of a letter dealing in part with Bureau agent Hosty's visits to the Paines. Oswald, according to Ruth Paine, charged that Hosty had attempted to coerce him into dropping his pro-Castro activities, and had attempted to pressure Marina into becoming an F.B.I. informer. "I made a copy," Ruth Paine informed the Warren Commission.

Marina Oswald and Ruth Paine's sworn statements concerning (1) an alleged Oswald visit to the Dallas F.B.I. office and (2) an alleged letter of protest written by Oswald have been overlooked for fourteen years. The House Select Committee might be able to recover something of what it lost with the death of William Sullivan by questioning both Marina Oswald and Ruth Paine on possible contacts between Oswald and the F.B.I. sometime between November 2nd and November 11th, 1963.

### **Oswald, Artime, and the Conspiracy**

American intelligence agencies, especially the C.I.A., possessed information which would have supported a conclusion of conspiracy in the assassination of John F. Kennedy, but withheld that information from the Warren Commission and from the American people: no other explanation encompasses all the strange and bizarre behavior of intelligence agents and intelligence-related individuals in their attempts to spread spurious Oswald stories after November 22nd, 1963. Significantly, Manuel Artime's associates were active in such story-telling, including Miguel de Leon, who worked for Artime in the Nicaragua operation which probably included would-be assassin Rolando Cubela (AMLASH), E. Howard Hunt, and several of the Watergate burglars. Artime, of course, was linked to the Caribbean exploitation group which supported the Lake Pontchartrain conspiracy; plotted with mercenaries and anti-Castro Cubans in Nicaragua and Costa Rica; was, according to one source, recently in touch with Orlando Bosch and his Cuban-exile terrorist organization; and was alleged to have been part of a massive cocaine smuggling plot in 1965. His delegate, Miguel de Leon, who reported a false Oswald-Cuban intelligence connection, was jailed for his part in a reported anti-Castro Cuban/ Trafficante cocaine plot. Artime's links to the Bay of Pigs veterans who had turned on the Kennedys, his involvement in anti-Castro assassination plots, his role in spreading false Oswald stories, his relations to Jose Aleman, Jr., Carlos Prio, E. Howard Hunt,

Bernard Barker, and Frank Sturgis, his key part in the Dorothy Hunt/ White House Watergate payoffs, and his continuing presence in all of the contexts of the Kennedy assassination and its aftermath should have made him an important witness for the House Select Committee on Assassinations, if only to ask him why, as a C.I.A.-supported anti-Castro leader with ties to the many assassination plots against Fidel Castro and to alleged Trafficante drug operations, he should be so interested in connecting Lee Harvey Oswald to Castro's Cuban intelligence and to a conspiracy to kill John F. Kennedy.

Early in November, 1977, Manuel Artime entered a Miami hospital, complaining of abdominal pain. Tests reportedly indicated Artime was suffering from incurable cancer of the pancreas and liver; a few days later, on November 18th, 1977, Manuel Artime, 45 years old, was declared dead.

### **The Context of the Crime**

The thesis of these final chapters has been that a complex but nonetheless coherent historical pattern can be discerned from the people and events surrounding the deaths of seventeen persons in seven years (October 6th, 1970, through November 18th, 1977). One of those persons died of an apparent heart attack (Harvey), two allegedly by "natural causes" (Hughes and Artime), three by reported suicide (Pawley, de Mohrenschildt, and Prio), one in an alleged hunting accident (Sullivan), and ten (counting Hoffa) by murder. All ten murder victims were Syndicate- associated figures; all three suicide victims were Caribbean-exploitation figures; the three deaths by natural causes were C.I.A.- associated figures.

Whatever Lee Harvey Oswald's intelligence or Congressional committee activities were, his actions apparently threatened the C.I.A./ Syndicate/ anti-Communist- exile plotting going on in both New Orleans and Dallas. The spate of "Oswald" in Miami and Cuba stories (as well as in Mexico City) suggests he also threatened the Miami center of the conspiracy, even in his absence.

The material evidence, unpublicized by the American media, establishes that no convincing case can be made against Lee Harvey Oswald as the assassin of John F. Kennedy (or, for that matter, as the murderer of Officer J. D. Tippit); that the most important "hard" evidence is at least tainted, and probably planted: CE 399, the three rifle shells, the live round, the "rifle" itself; that all of the reliable physical evidence (the medical documents, the ballistic materials, the spectrographic reports) proves that multiple weapons were fired at the president from several directions; that the behavior of certain members of the Dallas law enforcement agencies, the F.B.I., the C.I.A., and other federal investigative branches, indicates Oswald was framed; and that a cover-up immediately followed.



The seventeen deaths recorded here suggest that three events are interrelated and hold the key to a successful solution to the Dallas murders: (1) the assassination attempts against Fidel Castro; (2) the assassination of John F. Kennedy; (3) the probable assassination of James Riddle Hoffa. The suppression of Jack Ruby's true identity as (1) a Hoffa-Lansky gangster and (2) a police- intelligence informer with a special interest in Cuban affairs provides additional confirmation of my judgment. A known Cuban- exile/ intelligence/ organized- crime coalition was responsible - and remains responsible - for the context in which these three events occurred.

**Z-312**

*I turn the projector back, one slide, away from the awful explosion which ended John F. Kennedy's life; I have done it many times before. I stare at the mute and frozen moment, hearing only the hum of the projector's fan: Connally lying against his wife, terribly wounded; the limousine driver, his head turned, looking directly at the president; Mrs. Kennedy, concerned and frightened, cradling her husband in her arms; the president, slumped over, his head to the left, chin down, eyes closed; probably bleeding to death with a wound in his wind-pipe, needing air; another wound in his back.*

*The limousine will suddenly surge forward; the Secret Service will radio ahead to Parkland Memorial Hospital; the doctors will fight to save the president's life; a conspiracy will be discovered. No. He is dying. Yet, in repose, so vulnerable; he seems only tired; asleep. The journey to Dallas has been exhausting. Not dead; not dead. The projector hums; it is a time for private mourning; Z-312.*

On June 10th, 1963, at American University, President John Fitzgerald Kennedy announced the change in his policies he and his closest advisor, Robert F. Kennedy, had chosen. The road to Dallas was open. The address he delivered on that day is one of the great state papers in American history; it is certainly one of the most moving statements in human history. In his own words, the evidence in the assassination of John F. Kennedy has its meaning:

*...in the final analysis, our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this small planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's future. And we are all mortal.*



## NOTES

### INTRODUCTION

The basic sources are the following:

U.S., Warren Commission, *Report of the President's Commission on the Assassination of John F. Kennedy* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1964). Cited hereafter as R, with appropriate page numbers, as in R 110; in the text, often *Report* or *Warren Report*.

U.S., Warren Commission, *Hearings Before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1964). Cited hereafter as H, with appropriate volume number preceding and page numbers following, as in 12 H 21; sometimes with appropriate Commission Exhibit added, hereafter cited as CE, as in 17 H (CE 737) 511.

U.S., National Archives, Warren Commission Documents, cited hereafter as CD, as in CD 1052.

U.S., Congress, Senate, Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities, *Alleged Assassination Plots Involving Foreign Leaders*, Interim Report, 94th Congress, 1st Session, Senate Report No. 94-465 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1975). cited hereafter as AR, as in AR 100.

U.S., Congress, Senate, Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities, Final Report, Book Five, *The Investigation of the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy: Performance of the Intelligence Agencies*, 94th Congress, 2nd Session, Senate Report No. 94-755 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1976), cited hereafter as *Schweiker Report* or SR, as in SR 10.

U.S., Congress, Senate, Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities, Book Two, *Intelligence Activities and the Rights of Americans*, 94th Congress, 2nd Session, Senate Report No. 94-755 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1976), cited hereafter as *Church Report* or CR, as in CR 219.

5, p. ix

Robert Sam Anson, *"They've Killed the President"* (New York: Bantam Books, 1975), pp. 1-24 (including citations) for background on trip, Love Field landing, motorcade, etc; cited hereafter as Anson. Note: Anson should be used with caution, since he makes certain fundamental errors; for example: CE 399 plunged through Connally's "left" wrist (p. 80); Kennedy was rocketed backward and to the "right" (p. 86). Errors like these, however, do not diminish the value of Anson's synthesis of the evidence.

Mark Lane, *Rush to Judgment* (New York: Holt, Rinhart and Winston, 1966), pp. 36-80 and 109-113 (including citations) for the shooting; cited hereafter as Lane, *Rush*.

See also Harold Weisberg, *Whitewash: the Report on the Warren Report* (Hyattstown, Maryland: Harold Weisberg, 1965), pp. 1-51 (including citations); cited hereafter as Weisberg, *Whitewash*.

See also Sylvia Meagher, *Accessories After the Fact* (New York: Random House/Vintage Books, 1976), pp. 3-35; cited hereafter as Meagher.

See also R 1-18, 28-50, 61-78, and 111-117. The Hearings volumes (both testimony and exhibits) contain dozens of first-hand observations; for a relevant sampling, see citations of Anson, Lane, Weisberg, and Meagher. For all documentation, assume the author's citations are also being referred to.

6, p. ix

For "flurry," 2 H 73; for "automatic weapon," see WFAA inventory, cited in Harold Weisberg, *Whitewash II: The FBI-Secret Service Cover-Up* (New York: Dell, 1966), p. 331; cited hereafter as Weisberg, *Whitewash II*. See also 24 H (CE 2003) 207, (CE 2086) 522, (CE 2098) 531, (CE 2103) 533-534, and (CE 2107) 537.

For rifle story, see Lane, *Rush*, pp. 114-120, and Meagher, pp. 94-104; see also this book, Chapters 1 and 2. See also R 129-137, 569-570.

8, p. x

For Oswald's arrest, see Anson, pp. 36-38. See also R 176-180.

10, p. x

For "sniper's nest," see Weisberg, *Whitewash*, pp. 31-50, and Meagher, pp. 41-45.

11, p. x

For the "Oswald" rifle photographs, see Meagher, pp. 200-209. See also 23 H (CE 1788) 400-401.

12, p. x

For the evidence against Oswald, see R 1-25, and 118-156; see also Howard Roffman, *Presumed Guilty* (Cranbury, New Jersey: Associated University Presses, 1975), pp. 45-72,

hereafter cited as Roffman, Weisberg, *Whitewash*, pp. 12-51; and Anson, pp. 39-69. For Ruby's murder of Oswald, see R 208-242; see also Lane, *Rush*, pp. 209-216.

13, p. xi

Federal Bureau of Investigation, Summary Report, December 9th, 1963; Federal Bureau of Investigation, Supplemental Report, January 13th, 1964. Together with the report of Bureau agents Sibert and O'Neil (dated November 26th, 1963, in CD 7, National Archives), these F.B.I. documents, contradicting the findings of the Warren Commission, were not included either in the Commission's Report or in its twenty-six *Hearings* volumes. See Meagher, 147-148, 148n., 157-158, 177.

On Connally, see Anson, pp. 87-88.

The U.S. Secret Service Preliminary Report, November 28th, 1963, supported the F.B.I. analysis.

14, p. xi

On Tague, see Weisberg, *Whitewash*, p. 158, and Lane, *Rush*, p. 69.

For Commission counsel managing evidence to fit an argument for Oswald as the "sole assassin" see, for example, memorandum dated April 27th, 1964, from Norman Redlich to J. Lee Rankin, reproduced in Roffman, pp. 271-273.

15, p. xi

For F.B.I. re-creation, see R 97; see also 5 H 130-132. For important trajectory analysis, see R.B. Cutler, *The Umbrella Man* (Danvers, Maine: Bett's and Mirror Press, 1975), throughout, but especially pp. 1-15, 34-46, 83-88, 95-116, and 133-159; cited hereafter as Cutler.

16, p. xii

For the throat wound, see doctors' press conference, 3 H 374-375, 6 H 12-13, 21-22; see also Dr. Malcom Perry and Dr. Kemp Clark, quoted in Lane, *Rush*, p. 47; also for Perry, 3 H 373-379, 387, and 6 H 36-37, 42, 55; Dr. William K. Clark, quoted in Lane *Rush*, p. 47, and 6 H 11, 14, 28-29; Dr. Charles J. Carrico, quoted in Lane, *Rush*, p. 47, and 3 H 360, 362, 6 H 2-3, 5-6, 8 and 17 H 4; Dr. Robert N. McClelland, quoted in Lane, *Rush*, p. 51, and 6 H 33, 35, 37-38; Dr. Ronald C. Jones, 6 H 53, 55-56 and 20 H 333; Dr. Charles R. Baxter, 6 H 41; Nurse Margaret M. Henchcliffe, 6 H 140-141, 143; Dr. Gene Akin, 6 H 65, 67. See also excellent summaries of Lane, *Rush*, pp. 46-68, and Meagher, pp. 149-159. See also Weisberg, below.

17, p. xii

The Warren Commission's essential statement on the single-bullet theory can be found in R 19; see also supporting citations. See Lane, *Rush*, pp. 69-80, and Roffman, pp. 107-139, on Kennedy's wounds and 131-148 on Connally's wounds. See also R 511 and 517-521.

See Josiah Thompson *Six Seconds in Dallas* (New York: Berkley, 1976), p. 62-63, for an excellent summary and illustration of the throat wound; cited hereafter as Thompson. For CE 399 falling "out" of Ronnie Fuller's stretcher, rather than either Kennedy's or Connally's, see Thompson, 214-218.

19, 20, 21, 22, pp. xii-xiv

For the president's shirt and tie, back wound and throat wound, see R 87, and 516-546. For the

neck and back wounds, see Roffman, pp. 120-130. For the most important new medical evidence, see Harold Weisberg, *Post Mortem* (Frederick, Maryland: Harold Weisberg, 1975), cited hereafter as Weisberg, *Post Mortem*: throughout, but, in particular, for the throat wound, pp. 129-131, 148-153, 183-184, 233, 304-305, 508, 510, 517-518, 530-531, and 543. See especially the *Death Certificate*, 308-309, for the throat wound, and the *Autopsy sheets*, 310-311, for the back wound; on the shirt and tie, 329-337 and 597-598, the latter for Dr. Carrico on the nurse cutting the Kennedy shirt away. Also see important Weisberg interviews with Carrico, 375-376, and Perry 377-378, extremely damaging to the *Report's* medical conclusions. The House Select Committee on Assassinations ought to have made it part of its first business to question Carrico and Perry closely about (1) their press conference statements, (2) their Warren Commission statements, and (3) the important deviations found in their statements to Harold Weisberg. With Weisberg's 1975 evidence, the House Select Committee could have announced a finding of conspiracy in 1976. See also, in Weisberg, *Post Mortem*, Dr. Perry on the fragmenting bullet, 379.

## NOTES

### CHAPTER 1

1. p.1

See R 118-121, and R 822-823, notes 1 through 14 for Warren Commission's argument on the ordering and shipping of the alleged assassin's rifle. See also Henry S. Bloomgarden, *The Gun* (New York: Bantam Books, 1976), pp. 91,93, for Klein's information; hereafter cited as Bloomgarden.

2. p.1

Waldman, in Bloomgarden, p. 93. *American Rifleman*, in R 119.

3. pp.1-2

CE 139, in 1 H 119 and 16 H 512.

4. p.2

Rifle photographs, in 1 H 117; CE 135/136, in 1 H 118.

5. p.3

CE 139, in 1 H 119; Marina's rifle story, 1 H 13-19.

6. p.3

CE 139, in 16 H 512; newspaper photo of rifle, 17 H (CE 737) 511; corresponding Lane testimony, 2 H 35.

7. pp.3-4

Carcano background, in Bloomgarden, pp. 10 and 13; see also C.I.A./S.I.F.A.R. document, declassified 1976, discussed below in Chapter 5.

8, p.4

Carcano background, in Bloomgarden, pp. 13, 14.

9, p.4

Carcano background, in Bloomgarden, p. 17; C.I.A./S.I.F.A.R. document.

10, p.4

Warren Report and S.I.F.A.R.: R 554; see also 25 H (CE 2562) 801-811. Italian problems, see 3 H 392. For Carcano 41, Bloomgarden, pp. 17-18.

11, p.4

Carcano identification marks, in R 554; see also Bloomgarden, pp. 16-17.

12, p.5

Klein's Carcano, in R 118-119; see also Bloomgarden, p. 91 and 93.

13, p.5

Klein's records, in R 119; see also Bloomgarden, p. 93.

14, p.5

Klein's scope-mounting, in Bloomgarden, pp. 94-95; Retting, in Bloomgarden, p. 95.

15, p.6

Money order and rifle shipment, R 119 and Bloomgarden, p. 95; see also Meagher, p. 49.

16, pp.6-7

F.B.I. postal information in Bureau report, June 3rd, 1964: CE 2585, Question 12, cited in Meagher, p. 49. Commission conclusion in R 121; Holmes material in R 121; Holmes quoted in *Times*, cited in Lane, p. 139; see also Lane, pp. 136, 412 and 414. See Meagher, pp. 49-50. on Dallas Main Post Office.

17, p.7

Holmes as multi-purpose witness, see 7 H 289-308; see also Lane, 95-98 and 136, and Michael Canfield and Alan. J. Weberman, *Coup d'etat in America* (New York: The Third Press, 1975), p. 86; hereafter cited as Canfield.

18, p.7

Commission's defective evidence, see 22 H 186-187; see commentary in Meagher, p. 50, and Lane, p. 139.



19, pp.7-8

Marina's testimony: see R 128, and Meagher, p. 50; for baggage testimony, see 2 H 463-464; 1 H 50, 115; 6 H 415 and 436; 8 H 134; and 11 H 462, cited in Meagher, p. 50; see also pp. 50-52.

20, pp.8-9

Commission's garage argument: R 128; see Meagher, pp. 50-54. Marina on November 22nd: 25 H (CE 2580) 851; before the Commission, 2 H 119. September 6th, 1964, testimony: 5 H 611.

21, p.9

Marina's testimony, McKenzie, etc.: see Peter Dale Scott, *Crime and Cover-Up* (Berkeley: Westworks, 1977), pp. 36-38, and notes 145 and 146, p. 67, and note 153, p. 68; cited hereafter as Scott, *Crime*. F.B.I. report on Marina interview, 22 H 785; Mrs. Declan Ford's testimony, 2 H 321; both cited in Scott, *Crime*, p. 68. See also 2 H 336-337. Alteration of Marina's testimony, CD 344 22-23, cited in Scott, *Crime*, p. 67; see also 26 H (CE 2916 and CE 2917) 371-372, for Camplen and Dale.

22, p.10

McKenzie background: 2 H 321 and 22 H 785, cited in Scott, *Crime*, p. 68. Peter White: CD 273 120, cited in Scott, *Crime*, p. 36, and 19 H 73; see 14 H 295, and 14 H 34, when Griffin simply passed over Craford's claim to have entered the White information but not to have remembered anything about him. Peter White, see also 16 H 768.

23, p.10

Marina's rifle testimony, cited in Roffman, 236-238; summary 239.

24, p.11

The de Mohrenschildt visit, R 282-283; Marina on "crazy idiot," 9 H 249; Jeanne de Mohrenschildt's testimony, 9 H 316.

25, pp.11-12

Marina and the blanket, R 128; Ruth Paine and the blanket, 3 H 42; Ruth Paine and sling, 3 H 25; Michael Paine and blanket, 2 H 414 and 9 H 440, cited in Meagher, p. 52.

27, p.12

Oswald leaving the Paines: 3 H 67; 1 H 66-67; see also Weisberg, *Whitewash*, p. 15.

28, pp.12-13

The paper bag/transportation witnesses, in 2 H 245 ff.; 2 H 210 ff.; 7 H 531 ff.; 6 H 377; 2 H 242; 6 H 356 ff., cited in Weisberg, *Whitewash*, p. 15; the March 11, 1964, testimony, see Meagher, p. 55.

29, p.13

Oswald's possession or transportation of rifle, see Weisberg, *Whitewash*, p. 29. See also Meagher, p. 55.

30, p.13

Oswald's possession of rifle in Depository, see Weisberg, *Whitewash*, p. 15.

## NOTES

### CHAPTER 2

1, p.15

KBOX broadcast, in 26 H (CE 3048) 599 (Audio reel 1., item 33). Wade, in 24 H (CE 2167) 829. Rifle discovery, in R 79.

2, p.16

Weitzman-Boone discovery, in 7 H 106-107; Boone statement, in 7 H 106.

3, p.16

Arlen Specter, in *U.S. News and Report*, October, 1966, p. 58. Dallas police photo, in Jesse Curry, *JFK Assassination File* (Dallas: American Poster and Printing Co., 1969), p. 541; hereafter cited as Curry. How rifle was found, in R 79; Mannlicher-Carcano resemblance. in Thompson, p. 279. Several police photos, see Weisberg, *Whitewash*, 36; Weisberg commentary, in *Whitewash*, p. 211.

4, p.17

Boone at hearings, 3 H 293; Weitzman deposed, 7 H 105-109; Weitzman statement, in 7 H 108; Boone testimony, in 3 H 393; Mooney testimony, in 2 H 289; Day's statement, in 4 H 259. See Weisberg's commentary, *Whitewash*, p. 35.

5, pp.17-18

Weitzman affidavit, 24 H 228; CBS News Inquiry, "The Warren Report," Part One, June 25th, 1967, cited in Mark Lane, *A Citizen's Dissent* (New York:Fawcett World Library, 1969), p. 105; hereafter cited as Lane, *Dissent*.

6, p.18

"Mauser" report, in 26 H (CE 3048) 599. Rifle discovery, see R 235, 81, 645; 24 H 228 and 829, 831. Rifle identification, see 3 H 291-295; 4 H 205, 257-258; 7 H 105-109; 19 H 507; 24 H 228;

see also Curry, p. 53. Boone statement, in 3 H 295. See also Meagher, p. 96.

7, pp.18-19

Curry testimony, in 4 H 181.

8, pp.19-20

Rifle discovery, in 3 H 289. On Weitzman, Mooney, and Boone, see Lane. *Rush*, p. 120. Boone-Mooney sequence, in 3 H 294. Boone testimony, in 3 H 293-294.

9, p.20

On "Mauser" identification, see Meagher, p. 99. Ball deposing of Weitzman, in 7 H 108. Weitzman's rifle description, in 7 H 109; see Meagher, pp. 98-99.

10, p.20

Weitzman on scope, in 7 H 109.

11, p.21

Weitzman, CBS, "The Warren Report," Part One, June 25th, 1967.

12, p.21

P.S.E. analysis of Weitzman, in George O'Toole, *Assassination Tapes* (New York: Zebra Books, revised edition, 1977), p. 100; cited hereafter as O'Toole. O'Toole's commentary, in O'Toole, pp. 100-101.

13, pp.21-22

Lane, in 5 H 560-561; Lane statement, in 2 H 46. Lane, July 2nd, 1964, in 5 H 560-561.

14, p.22

Commission citation of Weitzman, in R 645-646. Mannlicher-Carcano and Mauser comparison, see Thompson, p. 278.

15, pp.22-23

Fritz statement, in 4 H 205-206; Meagher, in Meagher, p. 97; Fritz statement, in 4 H 205.

16, p.23

C.I.A. document cited in *Coincidence or Conspiracy?*, produced by the Committee to Investigate Assassinations, under the direction of Bernard Fensterwald, Jr., compiled by Michael Ewing (New York: Zebra Books, 1977), pp. 443-444; cited hereafter as *Coincidence*.

17, pp.23-24

"Mauser" identification, in 5 H 250 (Rankin-Wade).

18, p.24

Curry on television, in 5 H 228.

19, p.24

Day "identification," see R 9, 645; see also 4 H 263; Non-supportive citations, see R 79, 645, and 553-554; 25 H 859; see also Lane, p. 116. Day memo identification, in 4 H 260; see also Meagher, p. 100.

20, p.25

Day testimony, Odum drive, in 4 H 264; see also Lane, Rush, 116-117, and Meagher, p. 100, note 3.

21, p.25

Ball-Weitzman, in 7 H 109.

22, p.25

Dallas Police Department file, in 24 H (CE 2003) 195-404; Dhority reports, 299-301; the Dallas file has its own pagination, which may cause some initial confusion; following the Dallas file pagination, the Dhority reports appear on pp. 194-196 and 299-301. Ely-Dhority, 299.



## **NOTES**

### **CHAPTER 3**

1, p.27

Feldsott-Adam bid and Crescent Arms, in Bloomgarden, pp. 35, 36, 37, and 39.

2, p.27

Bagnasco, Royal Arms Works at Terni, Breda, and Luciano Riva, in Bloomgarden, pp. 73, 74, 75.

3, p.28

Riva, Breda, and the Riva-Adam contract, in Bloomgarden, pp. 75, 77, 78.

4, p.28

Adam's satisfaction, in Bloomgarden, pp. 76, 77, 78.

5, pp.28-29

Riva's problems and the Carcano complaints, in Bloomgarden, pp. 78-79. Comment on alleged Adam Carcanos, in C.I.A./S.I.F.A.R. document, declassified 1976, item no. 12 (full discussion of this important report deferred to Chapter 5).

6, p.29

Italian Navy's independent action, in C.I.A./S.I.F.A.R. document, item no. 14. Comir, International, Globe, in C.I.A./S.I.F.A.R. document, item no 24.

7, p.29

Adam's claim against Riva, in 25 H (CE 2559) 797; see also Bloomgarden, p. 80; Riva's visit, in Bloomgarden, pp. 80-81 and in 24 H (CE 1977) 2; sales versus Riva's loss, in Bloomgarden, p. 83.

8. pp.29-30

Rifle modification, in Bloomgarden, p. 73; Storo, p. 77. "Made in Italy"/"Made Italy," in Bloomgarden, p. 76 and R 555. F.A.C.-Riva rifle, in Bloomgarden, p. 77. Frazier's rifle description, R 81, 82-83, 554-555, and 3 H 392-394.

9. p.30

Other rifle restorer, in Bloomgarden, p. 85. Last Riva shipment: Adam; Crescent; "C 2766," in Bloomgarden, p. 85, and in 24 H (CE 1977) 2-3.

10. pp.30-31

Removal of identifying marks, in Bloomgarden, p. 73. Shipment to Adam, New York, then to Harborside, in 24 H (CE 1977) 2-3 and 25 H (CE 2562) 802-803; see also Bloomgarden, pp. 85 and 87; Fred Rupp re-packing, in 25 H (CE 2562) 804, and in Bloomgarden, p. 88; to Klein's, in 25 H (CE 2562) 805-806, and in Bloomgarden, pp. 89-90 and 91. See also 21 H (Waldman Exhibits no. 3 and 4) 698 and 700.

13. pp.31-32

Report statement, R 119; see 3 H 392, 24 H (CE 1977) 2, and 25 H (CE 2562) 800-811. Meagher comment, in Meagher, p. 104. Mussolini statement, in 25 H (CE 2562), 808. Italian arms plants, in Bloomgarden, pp. 74-75, and in C.I.A./S.I.F.A.R. document, item no. 27.

14. p.32

Two 2766 Carcanos, in 25 H (CE 2562) 800. Commission's Carcano designations, in 25 H (CE 2562) 800; "C 2766 rifle," in 26 H xii. But see, for example, 3 H 405, 432, and 438, where the rifle is called "CE 139" or "Exhibit 139." Hoover's identification of the two 2766 rifles, in 25 H (CE 2562) 800, 801, and 807.

15. p.33

Hoover to Rankin, in 25 H (CE 2559) 797. Memo declassification, in 25 H (CE 2559) 797. "Secret" memorandum, in 25 H (CE 2559) 797-798; the photographs, in 27 H (CE 541: 9 photographs, numbered 1. through 9. in Frazier's testimony, but not in 27 H) 238-241; see also R 82-83; CE 139 (as CE 1303) and CE 541 (photograph no. 2) and CE 541 (photograph no. 3). illustrating "markings." "Secret" S.I.F.A.R. document, in 24 H (CE 1977) 2-3; S.I.F.A.R. information, in R 554 (*Warren Report* notes, however, refer to Frazier's testimony, in 3 H 392-394 and 416, rather than to *actual exhibits* as identified here). S.I.F.A.R. statements on "C 14" rifle, in 24 H (CE 1977) 2. Commentary on photo no. 1 of CE 541 series, in 24 H (CE 2977) 2. Hoover to Rankin, March 26th, 1964, in 25 H (CE 2559) 797. Frazier's CE 541 (photo no. 1) submission, in 17 H 238, which is a *duplicate* print of CE 139, in 16 H 512.

16. p.34

See notes, above.



17, p.34

Hoover to Rankin, April 30th, 1964, in 25 H (CE 2562) 800-801; documents attached, 801-811; for Riva omission, 801; Frazier testimony, in 3 H 390.

19, pp.34-35

Hoover to Rankin, April 30th, 1964, in 25 H (CE 2562), p. 13 of F.B.I. report, 807. Bureau Exhibit D 156, in above, 807. Albert Lesko information, in above, 810-811.

21, p.36

Sucher statements, in 25 H (CE 2562) 808-809.

22, p.36

The "plunger" repair and the scope-mounting are parts of the vexing "Other" Oswald story centering on the Irving Trade Mart and Irving Gun Shop; for documents in the Dial Ryder/Gun Shop investigation, see 22 H 529-558. Dave's House of Guns of Elm St., Dallas, was not arbitrarily chosen; Ordnance Optics scopes of the identical kind found mounted on the rifle F.B.I. agent Frazier allegedly examined were sold by Martin Retting (Retting Gun Shop, Culver City, California: the "Ordnance Optics" source) to Dave's House of Guns, Dallas. See 22 H (CE 1331) 528.



## **NOTES**

### **CHAPTER 4**

**1 p.37**

Frazier testimony, in 3 H 390-441. For "technical information," in above, 390. Hoover to Rankin, March 26th, 1964, in 25 H (CE 2559) 797-798; Italian document, in 24 H (CE 1977) 3; photographs, in 27 H (CE 541) 238-241. Eisenberg-Frazier, in 3 H 392; 392-393; 393. Frazier's error, in above, 393; see Bloomgarden, P. 17.

**2, pp.38-39**

Frazier's S.I.F.A.R. information, in 3 H 393. Frazier on the serial number, in 3 H above, 393; Sucher statements, in 25 H (CE 2562) 808-809. For same serial number shared by two or more Carcanos, see Chapter 3, citations for paragraphs 13 and 14.

**3, pp.39-41**

S.I.F.A.R. information, in 24 H (CE 1977) 2-3; photo no. 1 identification, in 24 H (CE 1977) 2. Compare first photo in 27 H 238 to CE 139, in 16 H 512. CE 541 photo series, in 17 H 238-241.

**4, p.41**

Eisenberg-Frazier on rifle measurement, in 3 H 395. For CE 139/CE 541 (photo no. 1) ruler, see CE 641 and CE 648, in 17 H 292 and 296.

**6, p.42**

Rifle photos CE 1303 and CE 1304, in 22 H 408.

9, p.43

For Day exiting Depository, see, for example, Curry, P. 54, Exhibit 15 (two photographs). Day-Odum, in 26 H (CE 3145) 830; rifle in Day's safe, Day back at Depository, in 4 H 264; Day back at Identification Bureau, in 26 H (CE 3145) 830; rifle brought to Marina, in 4 H 263; Day holds rifle aloft, in 4 H 264; photo of Day with rifle widely published: for example, *Hartford Times*, November 23rd, 1963, attributed to AP; *Saturday Review*, October 22nd, 1966, attributed to Wide World; see especially *Four Dark Days* (Los Angeles: Special Publications, 1963), p. 12, attributed to Wide World. This *Four Dark Days* print has the barely-readable clock behind Day. A 22-inch blow-up of the Day rifle (with Day's hands and the sling painted out) was published by the *New York Times* on December 6th, 1975, p. 29.

10, p.44

Day photograph of rifle, in 17 H 511, CE 737; see also Curry, p. 85. For comparison, see CE 139, in 16 H 512. See Curry, p. 99, for a copy of November, 1963, *Field and Stream* ad (where Curry incorrectly identifies it as a "duplicate of the ad from which Oswald purchased the rifle..."). The Frazier-Klein "replica" of the alleged assassin's rifle, C 250/CE 542, in 17 H 241; Frazier testimony of C 250/CE 542, in 3 H 396; C 250/CE 542 mistakenly used to illustrate "Oswald's rifle," in Thompson, p. 278.

11, p.45

For poor condition of F.B.I.'s Mannlicher-Carcano, see, for example, Frazier's testimony:

The barrel is - was not, when we first got it, in excellent condition. ...it showed the effects of wear and corrosion. (3 H 495)

For verification of corrosion, rust, wear, and defects associated with the rifle in the Bureau's possession, see R 181, 4 H 29, and 26 H (CE 2974) 455.

12, p.45

Day-Drain, in 4 H 262; Lawson background, in 4 H 317-321; Lawson on flight with Drain, in 4 H 358. Hoover report to Curry, dated November 23rd, 1963, in Curry, pp. 90-94. Rifle K 1 statement, in above, p. 91; Hoover's report on ballistic match, in above, p. 92, Rifle K 1 to be returned, in above, p. 94.

## NOTES

### CHAPTER 5

1, pp.47-48

Gerald R. Ford, "Piecing Together the Evidence," *Life* (New York: Time, Inc.), October 2nd, 1964, pp. 40-51; cited hereafter as Ford, *Life*. Gerald R. Ford and John R. Stiles, *Portrait of the Assassin* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1965), pp. 15-29; hereafter cited as Ford and Stiles. Compare with Harold Weisberg, *Whitewash IV: JFK TOP SECRET Assassination Transcript* (Frederick, Maryland: Harold Weisberg, 1974). Warren Commission Transcripts, January 22, 1964, and January 27th, 1964, now available at National Archives. Rifle story, in Ford, *Life*, p. 51.

2, p.48

See references, above.

3, pp.48-49

Rifles stories, see references for Chapters 1-4.

5, p.49

German Mauser sales, in UPI release, Dallas: *Hartford Courant*, November 24th, 1963: "...the 7.65 German-made Mauser was in big demand about two years ago....The rifle takes a 32-caliber shell and is comparable to the American 30.06."

6, pp.49-50

No rifle name, in Curry, p. 54. Rifle "Speculation," in R 645. For the early deadline on writing the Report, and the closing off of various unexplored leads, see, for example, Anson, pp. 67-69 and supporting citations.

6, 7, 8, 9, pp.49-51

For rifle reports and identifications, see Chapters 1-4.

10, p.51

Frazier on ballistic identity between CE 399 and "the rifle 139," in 3 H 429; for other ballistic information, see R 61-117, 547-557, 580-585; see also Anson, pp. 80-82, 83, 96-99, 144, and 339; Lane, pp. 69-80, 403-405, and 411; Roffman, pp. 95-106; Weisberg, *Whitewash*, pp. 155-166; Thompson, vii-viii, 188-231, 255-264, and 264-267; Weisberg, *Post Mortem*, check index: throughout.

11, p.51

Postal Inspector Harry Holmes, in 7 H 294; Holmes Exhibit no. 2, in 20 H 174. Holmes aired a peculiar contradiction in the F.B.I.-Postal Inspection evidence on the rifle allegedly ordered from Klein's and delivered to Dallas; as far as I know, it has not been discussed in assassination writing, but constitutes one more piece in a puzzle concerning the alleged assassination rifle. An unsigned Postal Inspection Service report (also undated), in 23 H (CE 1799), reads (in part):

Advice was received on the morning of November 23 from the FBI that a rifle similar to that found in the sniper's nest had been purchased from Kleins [sic] Sporting Goods Company, Chicago, Illinois, for \$21.95 with a postal money order issued March 20, 1963. (419)

I have been unable to discover in the Commission's public record (1) which F.B.I. agent or official transmitted such "advice," (2) who in the Dallas Post Office "received" that advice, and (3) how it was discovered that a rifle purchased from Klein's with a March 20, 1963, postal money order was "similar" to the alleged Depository rifle. No record of a March 20th, 1963, postal money order was uncovered, and the circumstances in which Inspector Holmes heard about the alleged money order and rifle purchase remained unexplored by Commission counsel Belin:

Holmes: I came into the lobby of the terminal annex, and the postal inspector that was on duty mentioned that the FBI agent had called to inquire as to how they could obtain an original post office money order. He said he had told them they would have to get it in Washington, but would have to know the number of the post office money order. (7 H 293)

Neither Belin nor Holmes seemed to think it odd that an F.B.I. agent had called the Dallas terminal-annex substation in order to find out procedures which could have been given him in Washington. Or was the agent calling from Dallas? How did an F.B.I. agent know about a postal money order *before* it had been found?

...they said that also this FBI agent had passed on the information that the FBI had knowledge that a gun of this particular Italian make and caliber had been purchased from Klein's Sporting Goods in Chicago, that...a money order of some description in the amount of \$21.95 had been used..., and that the purchase date was March 20, 1964. (7 H 294)

Holmes's testimony is, therefore, consistent with the Postal Inspection Service report. Except for one question about the difference in price, Belin seemed uninterested in this curious "FBI agent." Was he, in fact, an agent?

13, p.52

On sales of Italian weapons, see, for example, Bloomgarden, especially pp. 101-104.

15, pp.52-53

The document identified here as a S.I.F.A.R. report which was subsequently obtained by the C.I.A., translated, and transmitted to C.I.A. headquarters, was released by the C.I.A. in 1976 without explanation, and with a number of crucial deletions. Reproduced below are the important segments of the C.I.A. "Dispatch" containing the S.I.F.A.R. report, with the deletions indicated by italics. The top of the document has the word **DISPATCH** in the left-hand corner, to the right of which is a box labeled "Classification," which shows evidence of deletion. I assume the original classification was "Secret" or "Top Secret." Below **DISPATCH** are four boxes: TO, with evidence of deletion: I assume the original destination was C.I.A. headquarters, Langley, Virginia; INFO., which seems blank rather than deleted; FROM, which also seems blank, but could have read C.I.A., Rome; and SUBJECT: "REPORT PREPARED BY *ITALIAN SERVICE* FOR DEFENSE MINISTER *GIULIO ANDREOTTI* CONCERNING THE TYPE RIFLE ALLEGEDLY USED BY LEE OSWALD IN THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY" (p. 1) Below that:

1.SHORTLY AFTER THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY DEFENSE MINISTER ANDREOTTI REQUESTED THE *ITALIAN SERVICE* TO FURNISH HIM A REPORT COVERING THE CHARACTERISTICS AND POSSIBLE ORIGIN OF THE RIFLE ALLEGEDLY USED IN THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY. THIS REPORT WAS PREPARED FOR *GIULIO ANDREOTTI* AND FORWARDED TO WASHINGTON. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE FROM OUR SOURCE TO ASCERTAIN THE EXACT REASON ANDREOTTI REQUESTED THIS REPORT OR WHAT, IF ANY, DISPOSITION HE MADE OF IT. SET OUT BELOW IS A TRANSLATION OF THE REPORT IN QUESTION-- (p. 1)

This chapter identifies the key passages in the document; the historical information has already been cited in Chapters 1-4. Item 30. of the S.I.F.A.R. report is the last passage containing deletions:

30. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT YOU MAY DESIRE TO PASS COPIES OF THIS REPORT TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY. A COPY HAS BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO THE F.B.I. REPRESENTATIVE HERE FOR HIS INFORMATION AND WITH ADVICE THAT IT HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO WASHINGTON.

The tone of the document was the first general clue that it was not a C.I.A. document *exclusively*; after that, several separate passages which were puzzling finally clustered together to suggest that the basic document was *Italian*. For example, in 30.: TO THE REPRESENTATIVE HERE...FORWARDED TO WASHINGTON." Where was "HERE" if the document was to be "FORWARDED TO WASHINGTON"? And why the distant-sounding "FORWARDED"? Was it being sent from Langley, or Dallas? Why? Though it seems obvious now, the separate heading below **DISPATCH** was all that was really needed, especially the phrase, "A TRANSLATION OF THE REPORT": the "REPORT," items 1. through 30., had been in a foreign language - that is, a language other than English; the report had been prepared for a "DEFENSE MINISTER." The body of the report gave the clue - in item 1.: "...APPEARING RECENTLY IN THE *ITALIAN AND FOREIGN PRESS*...." Who would say "ITALIAN AND FOREIGN," differentiating the two, except the Italians themselves?

My colleague Harald Sandstrom helpfully wrote the Italian Embassy, and on May 13th, 1977, Luigi Ramponi, Colonel ITA, Military Attache' (of the Office of the Military Attache),

Italian Embassy, Washington, D.C., gave us the name we needed:

...the Honorable Giulio Andreotti was the Italian Minister of Defense at the end of 1963.

The name filled in three blanks exactly. "Italian" and "Italian Service" (for S.I.F.A.R.) came next. "To Washington" was filled in, since item 30. revealed that information. That left "the American Embassy," which was filled in by trial and error, and "F.B.I.," which was chosen over "C.I.A." for several reasons. F.B.I. agent Frazier, in 3 H 393, said S.I.F.A.R. had supplied the "secret" information on the rifle "through the FBI representative in Rome." "Here," therefore, would be Rome, consistent with Frazier's testimony and the logic of the document. The only "guess" I have filled in is "FROM OUR SOURCE," which fits exactly and is consistent with the logic of the whole document.

16, p.53

Mannlicher-Carcano history, C.I.A./S.I.F.A.R. document, items 4., 7., 12, 24., and 28.

17, pp.53-54

*L'Unita* identification, item 8.

18, p.54

For Dallas-Washington-Dallas trips of alleged assassination rifle, see 4 H 262.

19, p.54

For rifle identifications, see Chapters 1-4, and citations.

23, p.56

For tabloid articles on the C.I.A./S.I.F.A.R. document, see, for example, the *National Examiner*, July 12th, 1977.

28, p.58

Walker bullet spectrographic analysis, see Chapter 8, below. See J. Edgar Hoover's report to Dallas Police chief Curry, dated December 9th, 1963, in 24 H (CE 2001) 46-47:

The copper jacket and the lead core of the Q188 bullet were determined to be *slightly different* in compositions from the copper jackets and lead cores of the Q1 and Q2 bullets. (italics added)

That is, F.B.I. spectrographic analysis found no relationship between the bullet allegedly recovered in the alleged murder attempt on General Walker and the bullet and fragments allegedly recovered in the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

Because of the extreme mutilation and distortion of Q188 and because the individual microscopic marks left on bullets by the barrel of the K1 rifle could have changed subsequent to the time Q188 was fired, *it was not possible to determine whether or not Q188 was fired from K1.* (italics added)



That is, F.B.I. ballistic analysis found no relationship between the bullet allegedly recovered in the alleged murder attempt on General Walker and the Mannlicher-Carcano allegedly examined by the F.B.I. (see Frazier's testimony, 4 H 392 ff.).

For initial Dallas police announcement on Walker bullet, see O'Toole, p. 32; see also R 183-187 and 562.

29, p.59

Robert D. Morrow, *Betrayal* (Chicago: Henry Regnery Company, 1976), hereafter cited as Morrow. Real names of Morrow characters:

"Richard Carson Filmore" = Richard Case Nagell (also known as Joseph Kramer and Robert Nolan)

"Carlos Rigel" = unidentified man in C.I.A. Mexico City photos

"Bill Gemelo" = William Seymour

"Jim Hart" = Loran Eugene Hall

"Charles Hunter" = Lawrence John Howard

"Robert Navarro" = R. Narvaez

"Ross Allen" = possibly John/Juan Martino

"Manuel Rodriguez" = Eladio Del Valle and Bill Grosch; this name and composite character are unnecessarily confusing, since (1) Bill Grosch also appears under his own name, and (2) this "Manuel Rodriguez" is not Manuel Orcarberro Rodriguez, about whom Morrow writes elsewhere.

"Pepe Arnez" not yet identified.

"Ed Kendricks" = Tracy Barnes.

The alleged Banister-Shaw and Morrow-Barnes incidents, in Morrow, pp. 114-115. For Ruby as the the alleged source of information on the alleged Oswald Mannlicher-Carcano, see Morrow, p. 113; for Sonny's, p. 115; transmission to "courier," p. 115.

31, p.60

"New evidence on slaying: JFK SECOND RIFLE" *National Examiner*, July 12th, 1977.

32, pp.60-61

For ballistic materials, see notes for paragraph 10.



## NOTES

### CHAPTER 6

#### 1, p.63

The basic materials for a study of Lee Harvey Oswald are the twenty-six volumes of Hearings testimony and exhibits. An incomplete "Names" index is printed in 15 H 753-801; unfortunately, the most important name missing from the index is "Oswald, Lee Harvey." In order to use the Warren Report and the twenty-six volumes, especially in a study of Oswald, the following is indispensable: Sylvia Meagher, *Subject Index to the Warren Report and Hearings and Exhibits* (New York: Scarecrow Press, 1966, and Ann Arbor, Michigan: University Microfilms, 1977), hereafter cited as Meagher, *Subject Index*. For bibliography, and materials relevant for an Oswald study, see Tom Miller, *The Assassination Please Almanac* (Chicago: Henry Regnery Company, 1977); cited hereafter as Miller. Anson, pp.154-217, is the best summary on Oswald available; be careful to check all citations. For a short review of Oswald, see in Bob Katz, "Who was Lee Harvey Oswald?", *Government by Gunplay*, edited by Sid Blumenthal and Harvey Yazijian (New York: New American Library, 1976), pp. 10-27; book hereafter cited as Blumenthal. For a definitive study of Oswald's innocence, see O'Toole, pp. 120-139. For Oswald's probable connections to the C.I.A., see Harold Weisberg, *Oswald in New Orleans* (New York: Canyon Books, 1967), hereafter cited as Weisberg, *Oswald*. See also Canfield, Chapter 3., "Was Oswald a CIA Agent," pp. 21-52. For so-called "Second" or "Other" Oswald(s), see Chapter 10, below, and citations. For definitive study of Oswald and the defective Commission evidence, see Roffman. For "Oswald" in the Soviet Union with "slight Southern drawl," see 20 H 286.



## NOTES

### CHAPTER 7

1, p.65

For camera speed, 18.3 frames per second, see 26 H (CE 2444) 576. See Lyndal L. Shaneyfelt, in 5 H, for numbering Z-frames, 139; for camera speed, 153; for Carcano firing time: "...a figure of two and a quarter seconds of frames; at 18.3, this gives us... 41 to 42 frames" - 153. For the basic Warren Commission argument relative to the Zapruder film, see Shaneyfelt, in 5 H 138-178.

3, 4, 5, p.66; 6, pp.66-67

For the acceleration/deceleration pattern of the limousine, see Lane, *Dissent*, p. 283, and p. 119, footnote. See also Meagher, pp. 3-5. For the limousine "seeming" to stop, see, for example, 22 H (CE 1415) 838 and 23 H (CE 2003) 212; see Meagher, pp. 3-5, for other representative citations. The Commission's curious response to the witnesses' testimony suggested, I think, the Commission's concern the Secret Service driver did not respond adequately to an obvious threat to the president's life.

7, p.67

Citations for the Warren Commission's scenario have been given throughout the notes for Chapters 1-5: in particular, see 25 H (CE 2444) 575-583, for F.B.I. re-creation; see also Cutler, p. 18, for a clear illustration of the Warren Report's three "possible" sequences of one miss and two hits. But, as I point out below, the only possible sequence *which fits the Commission's "evidence"* is the hit-miss-hit sequence between Z-210 and Z-313.

10, p.67

Frazier, in 3 H 407; on the Mannlicher-Carcano's firing time, see R 117; see also Shaneyfelt, in 5 H 153.

11, p.68

For Frazier's admitted extra time for a moving target, see 3 H 407. Other factors which would have further increased the firing time have been largely overlooked. The Warren Commission

established (at least through testimony) that Lee Harvey Oswald was right-handed; see, for example, 1 H 293-294 and 22 H (CE 1404) 763. The Aberdeen Proving Ground reported on April 6th, 1964, in 25 H (CE 2560) 799, that the alleged assassin's rifle had a scope "installed as if for a left-handed man." Meagher has suggested the left-handed mounting was "not suitable" for a right-handed shooter (Meagher, p. 107). The scope observed on the rifle photographed as CE 139 was mounted on the left side of the rifle, under the bolt area, and *at an angle to the shaft of the rifle*. Klein's gunsmith was not asked by the Warren Commission why the scope was so mounted; he was not asked if he had been given specific instructions to so mount it. But we do know that he had been given such instructions *after* the assassination by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Instead of calling William Sharp, the Klein's gunsmith, as a Commission witness ("Did you mount *this* scope on *this* rifle? Did you drill and tap holes on *this* rifle? Were you directed to mount *this* scope on *this* rifle to accommodate a left-handed shooter? If you were given such directions, by whom were they given?"), the Commission or the F.B.I., through F.B.I. agent Robert Frazier, had C 250 (the CE 139 "replica") sent by Klein's with a scope mounted (3 H 396). *Frazier instructed Klein's exactly where and how to mount and place the scope*. When C 250 was received, it therefore had an "identical scope" mounted exactly where CE 139 allegedly had its scope mounted:

...we did inform them that the scope should be in approximately this position [three-eighths of an inch to the rear of the receiver ring] on the frame of the weapon. (3 H 396)

Frazier's testimony concerning the mounting of a scope on the Mannlicher-Carcano only proved that Klein's did what the F.B.I. told it to do. Firing with such a weapon, a *right-handed* person would have had to cock his head to the left, support the stock with his left hand, and (1) pull the trigger and (2) work the bolt with the right hand. Frazier implied that *more extra time* would be needed in such a situation:

...in a bolt-action weapon, ...it is necessary to *shift your hand from the trigger area to the bolt, operate the bolt, and go back to the trigger after closing the bolt*. (3 H 407; italics added)

At least one *Warren Report* critic has pointed out that the Commission was for a time interested in pursuing the hypothesis that Oswald was left-handed or at least fired a rifle left-handed (Meagher, pp. 106-107), possibly to account for the aggravating fact of the left-handed scope-mounting.

13, 14, p.68

For Commission's earliest firing frame, see Shaneyfelt, in 5 H 138-178; see also R 9 and 643. For F.B.I./Secret Service re-enactment, May 24th, 1964, when the oak tree constraint was established, see R 97-98.

15, p.68

For the Z-235/240 constraint, see Cutler, pp. 95-96.

17, p.69

For re-examination of the fragment hypothesis for the throat wound, see Thompson, pp. x-xii; for earlier examination of the theory, see Thompson, pp. 58-66.

24, pp.71-72

See Shaneyfelt's discussion of the Z-film, in 5 H 138-178. For Warren Commission's timing, see R 117.

25, 26, p.72

For illustration of Warren Commission's series of three "possible" sequences, see Cutler, p. 17.

27, p.72

On witnesses, see Thompson, pp. 21-31 and 105-151.





## NOTES

### CHAPTER 8

1, p.75

Harold Weisberg, *Whitewash*, pp. 160-161, 163-164, 190, was the earliest assassination writer to call attention to the importance of the spectrographic analyses. Roffman, p. 282, end note 9, summarizes Weisberg's long battle to get the F.B.I. documents. See Meagher, pp. 171-172, for a useful summary of the spectrographic evidence's value. Roffman's "Suppressed Spectrography," in Roffman, pp. 95-106, is indispensable for a study of the evidence in the absence of these recently-released F.B.I. documents.

Both Harold Weisberg and E. L. Brown (a colleague of Robert Cutler) seem to have received the spectrographic reports in 1975. Weisberg, *Post Mortem*, pp. 419 and 448-450, refers to them briefly. E. L. Brown's spectrographic material is discussed in Cutler, pp. 175-177 (see also 174). Cutler, who consulted Dr. Edward Gilfillan, a nuclear physicist, arrived at the same conclusions I have set forth in this chapter: (1) the bullet and bullet fragments are from the same "lot of ammunition" - possibly from the same bullet; (2) the governor's right wrist was not hit by CE 399, but by "a particle of the [Kennedy] head shot" at Z-313.

4, pp.76-77

The private spectroscopist's report is reproduced below (he has asked that his name be withheld):

December 10, 1975

G.M.Evica C.C.C.I. 107 North Beacon Street Hartford, Conn. 06105

Dear Sir: Ref: H.S.E. No. 641822 Lab. No.s PC-78378BX HB and PC-73243BX JV GH

In interpreting the F.B.I. Spectrographic Report, conclusions are difficult to make on the F.B.I. Report because tests were run at different times under varied and non-uniform conditions. The operators and techniques used do not appear to be sophisticated by today's standards; therefore it may be worth while to re-analyze the samples if enough materials is available.

Nevertheless some conclusions can be made from the F.B.I. Report.

First, the bullet fired at General Walker (Q-188) shows differences in chemical composition of the copper jacket (tin) and lead alloy (Antimony & Tin) than Q-1, Q-2 bullets fired at President Kennedy.

Second, bullet fragments Q-4, Q-5, Q-14, Q-9 and Q-2 appear to be identical in chemical composition.

Third, Q-1, Q-2, Q-4, Q-5 fragments are similar in composition of the lead alloy. However, Q-1 shows chemical differences from Q-2 in composition of copper jacket (Copper, Lead and Silicon). Spectrographic analysis of copper jacket of Q-4, Q-5 is not available, therefore making it impossible to say if Q-1 fragment is identical or not to Q-4, Q-5 fragments.

5, pp.77-78

For "Q" identifications, see Hoover's letter to Curry, November 23rd, 1963, in Curry, pp. 90-91; for time and place of discovery of alleged ballistics evidence, see 24 H (CE 2011) 411-413, and Cutler, pp. 79-80.

7, p.78

Hoover's "spectrographic" report, in 24 H 263. John Gallagher's testimony, in 15 H 746-752.

8, pp.78-79

Hoover report to Curry, in 24 H (CE 2003) 262-264; as I have indicated above, this report is more accessible in Curry, pp. 90-94.

9, p.79

For Q4, Q5, Q9, Q14, Q15 "similarity," see 24 H 263.

10, p.79

For Commission ballistics, see R 61-117, in particular, 87, 91, and 94-95, and R 547-557 and 580-585; see also 5 H 67, 69, and 73-74.

13, p.80

Frazier on Walker ballistics, in 3 H 439.

14, p.81

For windshield scrapings, see 24 H 262.

19, 20, 21, pp.83-84

Chapter 9 takes up the Kennedy head wound; for other wounds, see R 53-56, 85-92, and 538-546 (and the supporting Hearings citations). See my Introduction, above, and Lane, Rush,

pp. 46-48, and Roffman, pp. 107-130. Roffman, pp. 131-148, is fundamental for Connally's wounds. See Cutler, p. 202, for relation of wounds and misses to Z-frames.



## **NOTES**

### **CHAPTER 9**

**1, p.85**

For Kennedy head wound, see, for example, 5 H 74 ff.; for metal distribution, see 2 H 100. For representative responses to head wounding and extensive skull and brain damage resulting, see 18 H (CE 1024) 742, 755, and 759.

**2, p.85**

For Commission's ballistic link, see R 18, 79, 84-85, and 3 H 429 and 499-500. Kennedy's head wound, in 5 H 74 ff.; for lack of evidence linking president's head wound with military-type ammunition, see 2 H 351 and 356.

**3, p.86**

Humes's testimony, in 2 H 356.

**5, p.86**

Skull-shot discussion, in R 87. President's brain tissue damage, in 16 H 981 and 983.

**6, p.87**

For fragile bullet, see Vincent Salandria, "The Warren Report," *Liberation*, March, 1965, p. 32. For relationship between Kennedy's "gaping defect," "associated fracturing," skull "fragmentation," "high velocity" round, and hunting "varminting" bullets, see Roffman, pp. 118-120.

9, p.88

Commission's ballistic witness, in R 77 and 85; see also 3 H 435 and 5 H 67 ff. Olivier's testimony cited in R 87. Frazier's "blood and particles of flesh" testimony, in 5 H 66.

10, p.88-89

Commission's probable miss, in R 117. The Tague curbing, in 21 H 476; "lead with a trace of antimony" and the "absence of copper," in R 116.

11, p.89

Shaneyfelt and Hoover-to-Rankin-letter relation, in 16 H 698 and 700.

14, pp.90-91

The "lead" on the windshield, in R 77.

15, pp. 91-92

Ramsey Clark forensic panel report, reproduced in Weisberg, *Post Mortem*, pp. 580-595. Weisberg has also reproduced an invaluable "undated, untitled" Ramsey Clark panel report of the Kennedy autopsy doctors ("we met after our regular work day, on January 20, 1967..."), pp. 575-579. The Clark Panel report has its own pagination, which I will give parenthetically. For the "large metallic fragment," see Weisberg, *Post Mortem*, p. 590 (Clark, p. 11). Clark panel location of fragments, in Weisberg, *Post Mortem*, pp. 589-590 (Clark, pp. 10-11). For "like a mass of stars," see 2 H 100.

16, p.92

For lead bullet disintegration, see Werner U. Spitz and Russell S. Fisher, *Medico-Legal Investigation of Death* (Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thonias, 1973), p. 207. Dr. Spitz was used by the Rockefeller Commission in 1975 to bolster the Commission's (and David Belin's) argument for a single assassin; see Mark Lane, *Rush to Judgment* (New York: Dell, 1975), pp. xxix-xxxv. Lane's "Introduction - Retrospective," pp. vii-xxxix, is an important summary of much of the new evidence through 1975.

17, p.93

Carcano velocity, in R 584 and 3 H 389 and 414; see also Roffman, pp. 119-120. The varminting bullet, in Roffman, p. 283.

18, pp.93-94

CE 399 shaved, in 3 H 430; grain weight variation, in 3 H 430; CE 399 nose scraping, in 3 H 428; see also Weisberg, *Post Mortem*, p. 602, showing that *all* the metal missing from CE 399 was "removed by the FBI"; see also p. 226. CE 399 clean, in 3 H 428-429. Other fragments with "residue," in 3 H 437. Nicol's testimony, in 3 H 505. In the summer of 1975, former deputy sheriff, justice of the peace, and judge of the lower court of Coconino County, Flagstaff, Arizona, James F. Brierley, and witness to hundreds of gunshot wounds, autopsies, and ballistic tests, examined a magnified picture of CE 399. Having been told what the Warren Commission argued: that CE 399 caused seven non-fatal wounds to two men, breaking two bones, and escaping without fine striations on its lands and grooves, clean and unmarked, Judge Brierley commented, "Impossible. This is a better bullet than those we test-fired into cotton. This bullet didn't hit anything. You've got a good case." Judge Brierley died on November 22nd, 1977. He will be missed.

19, 20, 21, pp.94-95

Frazier-Oser, Shaw trial, cited in Roffman, p. 125. Frazier on analysis of president's coat and shirt, in 5 H 59. For comment on core hardness, etc., see A. Lucas, cited in Roffman, p. 283. For

the possibility of fragments from at least two bullets, see 93 H 435 and 497; see also 3 H 429, 432-436, 498, and 500-502.





## NOTES

### CHAPTER 10

1. 2, p.97

Weston's story has always sounded like an "Oswald-Ruby" conspiracy tactic, and therefore is suspect both because of its orientation and the use to which it has been put. Weston was not the first Ruby employee to tell an "Oswald"-in-the-Carousel story: Billy DeMar (William D. Crowe, Jr.), a Carousel entertainer, achieved some notoriety by telling his story of an Oswald visit to Ruby's strip club; see his testimony in 15 H 96-114; see also references to DeMar and his story: check Index, "Crowe, William D., Jr.," 15 H 761, and all exhibit citations in both testimony given by, and about, DeMar. Mrs. Wally Weston (an entertainer at Ruby's club) denied DeMar's Oswald's story, making no mention of her own husband's alleged experience. Weston was never called as a witness, though he is referred to at least seventeen separate times by various witnesses: see 15 H 799 for citations. Weston himself denied the DeMar "Oswald" story, in 23 H (CE 1530) 20-21. The Commission reviewed several "Oswald" sightings at the Carousel Club, not including Weston's, rejected them, and concluded:

"No other employees recalled seeing Oswald or a person resembling him at the Carousel Club." (R 361)

Weston's initial silence does not prove he did *not* see Oswald or an Oswald look-alike at the Carousel; if Weston's sighting actually occurred, his *not* telling the story initially may derive from the same motive as his *telling* the story later. Ultimately, Weston's story depends on whether its corroboration (if any) is itself acceptable.

Wally Weston appeared on "Good Night, America," August 23rd, 1976, and told his "Oswald-Ruby" story on ABC network television. Weston *re-told* his "Oswald" story for Malcom Abrams, in *Midnight*, November 15th, 1976, adding that Kathy Kaye (real name, Kathy Coleman), a Ruby stripper, was working the night Weston encountered the Oswald look-alike and that "a few days after Ruby fired his fatal shot," Weston was back in Dallas, and met with Ruby employees at the Carousel Club, where Kathy Kaye pointed out Oswald's photo in a Dallas newspaper, asking Weston if he did not remember him as "the same dude that you punched out in the club." Kaye was questioned by the Warren Commission, under her married name, Kay Ellen Olsen, and denied having seen Oswald at the Carousel (see 14 H 640-655). According to Weston, she later told him, "I've got to get out of the country." Both Dallas policeman Harry Olsen and Kay Ellen Olsen (Kathy Kaye) disappeared before Jack Ruby's trial. They would be important witnesses for the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

Weston also told Abrams he had been interrogated by Gaeton J. Fonzi (then Schweiker Subcommittee investigator, now chief investigator for the House Select Committee) about an alleged meeting "five days before the assassination" at the Carousel Club between Ruby and "six to eight guys from Chicago," an apparent attempt on Weston's part to link the assassination plot to Ruby and members of the Chicago Syndicate. The other half of the *Midnight* report recounted the story of convicted murderer Paul Buccilli (real name Myron Thomas Billett), who maintained he attended a meeting at the Carousel Club between Jack Ruby, Sam Giancana, Johnny Roselli, an unnamed F.B.I. agent, and Lee Harvey Oswald, the purpose of which was the assassination of the president. Billett asserted he and Giancana left the meeting, wanting nothing to do with it. The meeting was supposed to have occurred "three weeks" before the assassination.

4, p.98

Basic materials for a study of the Other Oswald are Weisberg, *Whitewash*, pp. 137-154; Lane, *Rush*, pp. 324-343; Meagher, pp. 359-387; Thompson, pp. 296-314; Richard H. Popkin, *The Second Oswald* (New York: Avon Books, 1966), pp. 63-105, hereafter cited as Popkin; Anson, pp. 191-217; and Canfield, pp. 113-134. All Report, testimony, and exhibit citations referred to in the above should be consulted. The basic sightings are reviewed in Weisberg, *Whitewash*, pp. 137-154, and Lane, *Rush*, pp. 324-343.

5-6, 8-10, 13-18, 22, pp. 98, 99, 100-101, 103-104

Ellsworth and Masen interviews, in Dick Russell, "Second Oswald," *Village Voice*, August 23rd, 1976, pp. 23, 25, and 27, cited hereafter as Russell, "Second Oswald."

8, p. 99

Ellsworth's interview in memorandum from Burt Griffin to J. Lee Rankin, April 16th, 1964, available in the National Archives, cited extensively in Russell, "Second Oswald."

9, p. 99

For study in Mexico, see 26 H (CE 2694) 62.

10, 11, pp. 99-100

The Hubert-Griffin memoranda are discussed extensively in Chapter 13, below. Walthers' report, in 19 H (Decker Exhibit No. 5323) 534.

12, p. 100

Robert D. Morrow, "Behind Betrayal," unpublished manuscript submitted to the House Select Committee in 1976, p. 11.

13, 14, p.100

Memorandum from Griffin to Rankin, April 16th, 1964, cited in Russell, "Second Oswald," p. 23. CD 853, obtained under provisions of the Freedom of Information Act in 1976 from the

United States Secret Service, p. 2.

16, p. 101

Memorandum from Griffin to Rankin, April 16th, 1964, cited in Russell, "Second Oswald," p. 23.

18, pp. 101-102

CD 853, p. 2, for John Thomas Masen. For Rodriguez, Alpha 66, and Harlendale Ave., see CD 1085, recently declassified F.B.I. report on Manuel Rodriguez and Cuban exile activities, cited in Canfield, p. 118.

19, p. 102

F.B.I. informant T-1 on Rodriguez, and Rodriguez in Cuba, in CD 1085, cited in Canfield, p. 118.

20, pp. 102-103

Willis D. Price, Rodriguez, Cuban companions, and Oswald look-alike, in CD 23, pp. 2-4, available in National Archives.

21, p. 103

For Hubert-Griffin memoranda on Ruby, see Chapter 13, below. Dallas gunsmith arrested, see memo from Griffin to Rankin, April 16th, 1964.

23, p.104

Walthers' report, in 19 H (Decker Exhibit No. 5323) 534.

24, p.104

Robert Morrow, unpublished manuscript, pp. 9-10.

26, p.105

For medical, ballistic, and spectrographic evidence, see Introduction, and Chapters 7-9, above.

27, 28, pp.105-106

CE 2694 on Brinegar and Masen, in 26 H 62-64; cited hereafter as CE 2694, with 26 H page number following.

28, p.106

March 22th, 1964, F.B.I.-Masen, in CE 2694 63; March 12th, 1964, F.B.I.-Brinegar, in CE 2694 63.

29, p.106

March 23rd, 1964, F.B.I.-Botts, in CE 2694 63.

30, pp.106-107

Brinegar and cartridges, in CE 2694 63-64.

31, pp.107-109

F.B.I. Masen interview, in CE 2694 63. Brinegar and Masen "pulling" Carcano bullets, in CE 2694 63. F.B.I. cartridges, in CE 2694 64.

34, pp.110-111

Armstrong testimony, in 13 H 345-347.

35, p.111

Masen at Arlington State College, in CE 2694 63.

36, p.112

Memorandum from Hubert and Griffin to "Members of the President's Commission," dated March 20th, 1964, p.4, and from Hubert and Griffin to Howard Willens and J. Lee Rankin, dated May 14th, 1964, pp.3-4; both memorandums available in the National Archives.

## NOTES

### CHAPTER 11

19, pp.120-121

Veciana and "Bishop" in Miami, in Russell, June 24th, 1977, p. 34. Schackley and JMWAVE, in Branch and Crile, August, 1975, pp. 50-51. JMWAVE, in Branch and Crile, August, 1975, pp. 51-52. See also Anson, pp. 259-260 (drawn mainly from Branch and Crile).

20, p.121

For JMWAVE, see Branch and Crile, August, 1975, pp. 57-62. Veciana, C.I.A., and Alpha 66, in O'Toole and Hoch, March, 1976, p. 96, and Russell, June 24th, 1977, p. 34. For Alpha 66 activities (and suspected connections to the Kennedy assassination), see Anson, pp. 66, 247, 268, 270-272, 334, and 349; see also Canfield, pp. 116-121 and 129. See also CD 1085, in National Archives; Frank Mankiewicz, *Perfectly Clear: Nixon from Whittier to Watergate* (New York: Quadrangle, The New York Times Book Company, 1973), pp. 123-127, hereafter cited as Mankiewicz; and Peter Dale Scott, Paul L. Hoch, and Russell Stetler eds., *The Assassinations* (New York: Vintage/Random House, 1976), p. 537 (in Index), for "anti-Castro activities," hereafter cited as *Assassinations*.

21, pp.121-122

Veciana, Bishop, Alpha 66, and Kennedy, in Russell, June 24th, 1977, p. 34.

22, p.122

Alpha 66 attacks, in Anson, p. 263; O'Toole and Hoch, March, 1976, p. 96, and for press conference, p. 96; and Russell, June 24th, 1977, p. 34.

23, p.122

State and Justice Departments' promise, in *New York Times*, September, 16th, 1963.

## 24, pp.122-123

For the Kennedy moratorium, see Anson, pp. 261-162 and the events from the spring of 1963 to the assassination, pp. 267-274. See also Theodore C. Sorensen, *Kennedy* (New York: Harper and Row, 1965) unfortunately, Sorensen does not organize the "moratorium" as a series of historical events, but it can be pieced together from pp. 291-309, 509-540, and 667-746, hereafter cited as Sorensen. See also D. F. Fleming, *The Costs and Consequences of the Cold War* (Philadelphia: Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, 1966), p. 137, hereafter cited as Fleming; and William Attwood, *The Reds and the Blacks* (New York: Harper and Row, 1967), pp. 142-144 and 146-147. An important and largely overlooked article in the *Washington Post*, "The JFK Assassination: Curiosity in Havana," September 12th, 1976, by "a senior fellow of the Council on Foreign Relations," probably William Attwood, former U.S. ambassador and *Newsday* publisher, scored impressive points against the Castro-did-it theory developing in Congress, the media, and right-wing circles. No later than September 5th, 1963, according to the "senior fellow," Castro (displeased with the Soviet Union) initiated talks with unofficial representatives of the American government matching Kennedy's mood of detente. The "senior fellow" reported Castro's government in 1975 was highly interested in the renewed Kennedy assassination probe, and was convinced that "counter-revolutionary elements" in the anti-Castro Cuban community were responsible for the J.F.K. murder. The so-called September 7th, 1963, "threat" allegedly made by Fidel Castro (quoted by the "senior fellow") - if the Kennedys were "aiding terrorist plans to eliminate Cuban leaders, they themselves will not be safe" - has been ignorantly or deliberately misread by "Castro-did-it" proponents. It was, I believe, a warning from Castro to the Kennedys: "Those who would kill me would not stop at killing you."

## 25, p.123

Veciana and the House Select Committee, Anderson, January 19th, 1977, January 21st, 1977, April 9th, 1977, and May 6th, 1977; see also Russell, June 24th, 1977, pp. 34 and 35.

## 26, p.123

Veciana's "Oswald," in Chapter 10, and Anderson, January 21st, 1977.

## 27, p.123

For Other Oswald sightings, see Chapter 10.

## 28, 29, 30, 31, pp.123-124

The Sylvia Odio story, in R 321-324; 11 H 369-382; and 25 H (CE 2390) 369-370, 26 H (CE 2896) 349, 26 H (CE 2907) 362-363, 26 H (CE 2942) 401, 26 H (CE 2943) 402-405, 26 H (CE 3045) 595-597, (CE 3108) 738-739, (CE 3146) 834-835, (CE 3147) 835-835, (CE 3148) 838-839. See also Wesley Liebler, who "found that a number of details in the woman's story coincided with facts she could not possibly have known," in Edward Jay Epstein, *Inquest: The Warren Commission and the Establishment of Truth* (New York: The Viking Press, 1966), p. 102, cited hereafter as Epstein. See Meagher on the "accuracy of Mrs. Odio's identification," p. 380; see Meagher's review of the Odio story, pp. 376-380 and 386-387, and the parallel and crucial Oswald-to-Mexico City story, pp. 381-384. Understanding of the Odio story increases with repeated hearings: see Anson, pp. 194-198 and 272-273; Canfield, pp. 125-137; and Paul Hoch, "CIA Activities and the Warren Commission," in *Assassinations*, pp. 486-787 and 492-495.

32, pp.124-125

Veciana and the F.B.I., in Russell, June 24th, 1977, p. 34. Odum-Hosty and Odio, in Canfield, pp. 125-126. The Odum-Hosty report, in CD 205, available in the National Archives. J. Lee Rankin to J. Edgar Hoover, August 28th, 1964, in 26 H (CE 3045) 596. Annie Laurie Odio, Sylvia Odio's sister, in CD 1553, available in the National Archives. See Meagher commentary, pp. 382-384. For Liebel's unanswered questions, see Epstein, pp. 93-95, and Liebel's memorandum to Willens, September 14th, 1964, available in the National Archives: "Odio may be right" - "the Commission will look bad if it turns out she is."

33, p.126

For "Oswald" in Mexico City, see R 299-311; and 144, 280-282, 364-465, 730, and 733-736. See also 4 H 468-469; 7 H 257, 303-304, and 590, 592; 11 H 192, 203, and 469-450; and 15 H 640-641; 16 H (CE 15) 33; and 25 H (CE 2564) 814. See also CDs 49, 75, 566, 588, 613, 631, 632, 652, 674, 692, 776a, 963, 1084D, 1084E, and 1287, available in the National Archives. See also Meagher, pp. 310, 313-314, 338-339, 377-387; Hoch in *Assassinations*, 468-470. See especially Bernard Fensterwald and George O'Toole, "The CIA and the Man Who Was Not Oswald," *The New York Review of Books*, April 3rd, 1975 (reprinted in *Assassinations*, pp. 450-459). See, finally, *Coincidence*, pp. 93-94 and 232-235 .

34, p.126

Veciana, Bishop, and Ruiez, in Anderson, January 21st, 1977, and Russell, June 24th, 1977, pp. 34-35.

35, pp.126-127

C.I.A. statements on "certain secret tapes," in *New York Times*, September 21st, 1975, AP release in *Hartford Times*, September 21st, 1975, UPI release in *Hartford Times*, September 22nd, 1975, UPI release in *Boston Globe*, November 27, 1976, and Jack Anderson and Les Whitten, *Hartford Courant*, May 6th, 1977. Russell-Rankin exchange, in Warren Commission Session Transcript, January 2nd, 1964, p. 187, in Weisberg, *Whitewash IV[:]* *Top Secret JFK Transcript* (Frederick, Maryland: Harold Weisberg, 1974), p. 96. The January 22nd and 27th transcripts are now available in the National Archives, but are so available only because of Weisberg's FOIA efforts; both are reprinted in *Whitewash IV*.

36, p.127

*Baltimore News American* story, in AP release *Hartford Times*, September 24th, 1975.

37, pp.127-128

For Lonnie Hudkins, see Anson, pp. 253-254 (check Anson's citations). Senate Intelligence Committee, in UPI release, *Hartford Times*, September 22nd, 1975.

38, pp.128-129

C.I.A. statement, in *New York Times*, September 21st, 1975. Rockefeller-Colby, in Tad Szulc, "Why Rockefeller Tried to Cover Up the CIA Probe," *New York*, September 5th, 1977, pp. 8-10.





## NOTES

### CHAPTER 12

1, 2, pp.131-132

Seymour Hersh on C.I.A. "clandestine activities," in *New York Times*, September 8th, 1974. Rockefeller Commission and Congressional committees responses, and C.I.A. morale, in David Atlee Phillips, *The Night Watch* (New York: Atheneum, 1977) , p. 267, hereafter cited as Phillips. Snyder-Agee, in Phillips, p. 270. May, 1975, period chosen; Phillips projected retirement; and Colby talk, in Phillips, p. 271.

3, p.132

Preface, in Phillips, pp. vii-viii.

4, p.132

Background, in Phillips, pp. 4-6.

5, p.132

Chile, in Phillips, pp. 3-29; C.I.A. group "pleased," and its Bay of Pigs reunion, p. 53.

7, 8, p.133

Lebanon and the "rich Texan," in Phillips, p. 73. Phillips' "rich Texan" sounds like Jack Crichton, rich Texan oilman, who was an Army Intelligence (Reserve) agent, was active in conservative and Republican circles in Dallas, and volunteered to obtain a translator for Marina Oswald just after the Kennedy assassination. What Crichton's relation was to the intelligence groups that clustered around Marina Oswald after the Kennedy murder and the killing of her husband by Jack Ruby is not clear at the present time. Crichton was well-known in Dallas and throughout Texas, so that any alleged Near Eastern financial activities in which he might have been involved could have been compromised by the Phillips' "cover." See 9 H 102 and 106, and CD 386, available in the National Archives. See also *Coincidence*, pp. 240-241, but note that Crichton is cited as the translator; see, however, 9 H 106, the testimony of Ilya A. Mamantov, who actually translated for Marina in the critical hours just after the

assassination:

[Jack Crichton] is a petroleum independent operator, and if I'm not mistaken, he is connected with the Army Reserve, Intelligence Service. And, he asked me if I would translate for the [Dallas] police department and then immediately Mr. Lumpkin called me.

8, p.133

For the "large number of Federal agents" who appeared on the scene of the Kennedy assassination, see Canfield, pp. 67-68; Canfield suggests that Crichton may have been at Dealey Plaza at the time of the assassination; just hours after the shooting, he would be at Dallas police headquarters offering his assistance (see above).

9, p.133

Beirut, in Phillips, p. 70; knowledge of Spanish, pp. 4, 18, and 88.

10, p.134

The resignation and stipend, in Phillips, p. 76.

11, p.134

Bay of Pigs, in Phillips, pp. 86-111; Cabell, pp. 97-98.

12, p. 134

The "most crucial development," in Phillips, p. 139; see also 126.

12, 13, 14, pp.134-135

Norman Kempster, *Los Angeles Times*, October 5th, 1976.

14, p.135

Fensterwald and O'Toole, in *Assassinations*, pp. 450-459.

15, pp.135-136

The C.I.A. monitoring system, in *Coincidence*, p. 396. See the entire review of "Name and Identity Unknown," pp. 293-400, the photographs, p. 396 and 398-399, and the related Hugh McDonald story on "Saul," pp. 400-404. For an extended discussion of McDonald's "Saul," whom McDonald has alleged (1) he has met and interviewed and (2) is the unidentified man in the C.I.A.'s Mexico City photographs and (3) is the admitted (lone) K.G.B. assassin of Kennedy, see Hugh McDonald, *Appointment in Dallas* (New York: Hugh McDonald Publishing Corp., 1975). According to McDonald, "Saul" confessed that the assassination contract was given him by a man he knew as "Troit," a name vaguely Russian-sounding (cf. *troe/troi*, three, as in "*troika*," a once-fashionable term for groups of three Soviet officials allegedly holding power in the Presidium and the Communist Party of the U.S.S.R.). Whatever the truth of McDonald's (or "Saul's") story, "Troit," with his Guatemalan and Haitian connections, sounds like George de Mohrenschildt (pp. 140-153). October 10th, C.I.A. teletype, in CD 631, available in the National Archives.

16, p.136

Kempster description, in *Los Angeles Times*, October 5th, 1976. For various *official* "Oswald" heights, see Anson, p. 209; for other non-official "Oswald" heights, see pp. 208 and 210.

17, p.136

C.I.A. request to Navy, in CD 631. Commission's suspicion, and C.I.A.'s response, in *Coincidence*, pp. 397-400.

18, pp.136-137

Odum Exhibit 1, in 20 H 691: "photograph of an unknown individual which was furnished the FBI by the Central Intelligence Agency," 20 H xix. C.I.A.'s 1975 and 1976 photo releases, and possible Agency bugging ("hidden microphone"), in Kempster, October 5th, 1976.

19, p.137

Phillips' "relatively routine" work, in Phillips, p. 114.

20, pp.137-138

Clark Anderson and the F.B.I., in Phillips, pp. 155-156. Craig, Craig's wife, and her cable transmission, in Phillips, pp. 139-140.

21, p.138

The assassination, in Phillips, pp. 140-141; conspiracy "theories," pp. 140-141; the sceptics making money, p. 140.

22, pp.138-139

Craig's wife's errors, in Phillips, p. 141. The "young Nicaraguan" (the Warren Commission's "D"), in Phillips, pp. 141-142. See R 284-285, 26 H (CE 3151) 857-858, and CD 1084, available in the National Archives; in 26 H 857-858, Alvarado is called "D"; in 26 H (CE 3151) 859-860, Alvarado is called "T-32." For the Nicaraguan connection, see Anson, pp. 255-256.

23, p.139

Oswald rejected by the Cubans and Soviets, in Phillips, p. 142.

24, p.139

Unnamed but knowledgeable sources sounding like David Atlee Phillips, in *New York Times*, September 21st, 1975, AP release in *Hartford Times*, September 21st, 1975, and UPI release in *Hartford Times*, September 22nd, 1975. Compare with later stories in which Phillips was named as the source - for example, UPI release in *Hartford Courant*, November 28th, 1976.

25, pp.139-140

Recently-released F.B.I. memorandum cited in AP release, *Hartford Times*, September 21st, 1975. UPI release, in *Hartford Times*, September 22nd, 1975.

26, 27, p. 140

Fensterwald and O'Toole, in *Hartford Courant* (reprint of L.A. Times Wire Service story of October 5th), October 7th, 1976. The C.I.A. stories, UPI release in *Boston Globe*, November 27th, 1976, and UPI release in *Hartford Courant*, November 28th, 1976; see also UPI radio teletype releases on November 27th, 1976, all of which featured David Atlee Phillips. Hoover to Warren Commission, November 23rd, 1963, declassified in March, 1977, by the Secret Service and available at the National Archives.

28, p.141

Compare above releases with Phillips, pp. 139-142, for *contradictions*. Nothing in the public record indicates the House Select Committee pointed out to Phillips his (and the C.I.A.'s) Mexico City story had changed materially in two years. The contradictions ought to be part of the House Select Committee's inquiry into the C.I.A.'s role in the post-assassination cover-up - and Phillips's possible complicity.

29, 30, p. 142

Veciana-Odio links, in George O'Toole and Paul Hoch, "Dallas: The Cuban Connection," *The Saturday Evening Post*, March, 1976; see also O'Toole, pp. 297-301.

30, p. 142

O'Toole and Prinze, in O'Toole, pp. 300-301.

31, p. 143

Veciana, Carriles, Morris Bishop relations: see citations for Chapter 11 in and notes for paragraphs 4, 6, 7, 21, 25, and 34.

32, p. 143

Carriles, Veciana, and Bosch, in *Earth News*, December 21st, 1976. Artime, Bosch, and exiles, in *New York Times*, November 15th., 1976.

33, p. 143

Bosch, Gil, Masferrer, Hall, Bringuier and Oswald in Weisberg, Oswald, pp. 51, 345 and 361-363.

34, p.144

Veciana's arrest and Committee appearances, in Russell, June 24th, 1977, p. 35, and O'Toole, p. 302.

35, 36, 37, 38, pp.144-145

Interview with Frank Sturgis, University of Hartford, November 22nd, 1976. Ellsworth arrest

of Oswald look-alike, see Chapter 10, above; see also summary in Miller, p. 131. See summary, beginning of this chapter. CD 853, obtained under provisions of the Federal Freedom of Information Act in 1976, now available in the National Archives. Veciana, Congressional investigators, and David Atlee Phillips, in Russell, June 24th, 1977, pp. 34 and 35.



## NOTES

### CHAPTER 13

1, p. 147

The basic materials for a study of Jack Ruby are: R 196-242, 333-374, and 779-806, with all citations to the testimony and exhibits in the twenty-six volumes; Meagher, *Subject Index*; Lane, 209-216 and 219-304; Meagher, pp. 391-454; Model, pp. 235-257; Canfield, pp. 151-180; Sybil Leek and Bert R. Sugar, *The Assassination Chain* (New York: Corwin Books, 1976), pp. 81-84, 88-116, 143-146, and 203-208, hereafter cited as Leek (to be used with caution: Leek is without documentation and makes fundamental errors throughout; for example, Carlos Bringuier is incorrectly called "Jose' Brenier" on p. 88 and "Carlos Bringuier" on p. 135); *Coincidence*, pp. 56-57, 259-260, 273-284, 290-295, 357-359, 416-420, and 576-580 (and citations throughout); and Carl Oglesby, *The Yankee and Cowboy War* (Kansas City: Sheed Andrews and McMeel, Inc., 1976), pp. 109-143, hereafter cited as Oglesby. The best contextual analysis of Jack Ruby is in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 39-46 and pp. 70-73 (notes 160-209). See also Melvin R. Belli and M.C. Carroll, *Dallas Justice: The Real Story of Jack Ruby and his Trial* (New York: David McKay, 1964); and Gary Wills and Ovid Demaris, *Jack Ruby* (New York: New American Library, 1967).

2, p. 147

Ruby, Hoffa, Lansky, and Cuba, in Canfield, p. 151.

3, p. 148

Ruby's links to Lansky, below. Ruby and "Fox" brothers, in Canfield, p. 163, 164, and 166; see also p. 291. Ruby's Syndicate-Teamsters ties, in Scott, *Crime*, p. 39-46, and pp. 70-73 (notes 160-209); Lane, "Introduction-Retrospective," pp. vii-xvii. See also Canfield, pp. 151-180.

4, pp. 148-149

Leon Cooke's father; Cooke, Ruby, and union organization; Ruby as "organizer," in 21 H (Ruby [Sam] Exhibit No. 1) 376. See also 22 H (CE 1289) 424-425, and Paul Krassner, "Jack

Ruby and his Dirty Little Secret," *Cavalier*, May, 1967, p. 20. Hoffa and Dorfman, in Robert Kennedy, *The Enemy Within* (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1960), pp. 84-86, hereafter cited as Kennedy. See also *Coincidence*, p. 274; Scott, *Crime*, p. 39; and Lane, "Introduction-Retrospective," p. vii. Ruby and Dorfman, in 22 H (CE 1279) 382-383. Dorfman minimized his relationship to Ruby, citing an irrelevant 12-year difference in their ages, for example. When Ruby was active in the union, an AFL-CIO report characterized it as "largely a shake-down operation": "Report and Recommendations...Regarding Charges Against...Local 20467 and Paul Dorfman," dated July 30th, 1957, in 22 H (CE 1292) 433-436, specifically 433. Much of the information on the union local and Ruby's involvement in it was gained by the F.B.I. through Mrs. Gladys Walsh, who was allegedly present at the Cooke-Martin shooting incident (see above). The ineptness of the F.B.I. was never better demonstrated than in its "investigation" and reporting on the Ruby-Cooke-Martin-Dorfman story: see Lane's summary in "Introduction-Retrospective," p. ix (and citations). And the *Warren Report* matched its investigative Bureau support:

Several long-time members of the union reported that it had a good reputation when Ruby was affiliated with it.... (R 788)

Peter Dale Scott pointed out that the "long-time members" were "survivors from the shake-down era," all three being suspect because of their associations with Paul Dorfman: see 22 H (CE 1205) 320 and 22 H (CE 1292) 436, and Scott, *Crime*, p. 39 (and citations). As late as February 2nd, 1940, Ruby and Dorfman attended the same union meeting: 21 H (CE 1293) 437. See also 22 H (CE 1279) 382-383 for Dorfman (the new treasurer) and Ruby (who handled dues as an organizer) and the empty union treasury. The union was the "Scrap Iron and Junk Handlers Union" as of March, 1937; on August 27th, 1941, it became the "Waste Material Handlers Union": hence the frequent confusion as to its name: 21 H (CE 1293) 437.

4, 5, 6, pp. 148-150

The Ruby-Cooke-Martin affair, in *Chicago Daily Tribune*, December 9th, 1939. See also Chicago Police Department Report 55513, Offense Report dated December 9th, 1939, and Detective Report dated December 8th, 1939, cited in Lane, "Introduction-Retrospective," p. ix. Ruby was actually "held in jail overnight for questioning" in the Leon Cooke shooting: 20 H (Hall C. Ray Exhibit No. 1) 37. Dorfman-Hoffa, in Kennedy, pp. 84-86.

8, pp. 150-151

Chicago, in Robert H. Williams, *Vice Squad* (New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Company, 1973), p. 25, hereafter cited as Williams. Cook County, Chicago, and McCormick, in Williams, pp. 25-28.

9, p. 151

Illinois State's Attorney and bribery, in Williams, p. 28.

10, p. 151

Courtney, Gilbert, Gilbert's Chicago police job, and Allman, in Williams, pp. 28-29.

11, pp. 151-152

Gilbert and Mullen conferences, and Mullen and Sullivan reporting to Allman and Gilbert, in *Chicago Sun-Times*, April 6th, 1935, cited in Williams, p. 29. Gilbert returns to Courtney;



Williams's conclusion; and the veto, in Williams, p. 29.

12, p. 152

Gilbert and Hot Springs hotel; Lingle; Factor and Tuohy; and Accardo, et al., in Williams, pp. 29-31. Gilbert, gambling and the Kefauver Committee, in Richard Hammer, *Playboy's Illustrated History of Organized Crime*—(C Gilbert's estate, in Williams, p. 31.

13, p. 153

Gilbert, Teamsters, and "scavenger waste pickup business," in Williams, p. 29.

14, p. 153

Martin, Druggan, Kelly, and Rubenstein, in *Chicago Daily Tribune*, December 9th, 1939. On January 16th, 1940, "John Martin was freed of the charge of murdering" Cooke: 22 H (CE 1279) 383; Paul Dorfman claimed Martin's action was "self-defense": 22 H (CE 1279) 383. Dorfman-Hoffa relationship, in Kennedy, pp. 84-86; see also Scott, *Crime*, p. 39. One of the three witnesses to the union's "good reputation" (R 788) was Ted Shulman: see 22 H (CE 1293) 436. Scott pointed out (p. 39) that Shulman was interrogated closely before the McClellan Committee by Robert Kennedy about his Dorfman deals, yet the Warren Commission depended on Shulman for the curious conclusion that "Ruby might have been forced out of the union by a criminal group" (R 788). This Ruby-expulsion story threaded through Commission testimony taken concerning Ruby. At least seven witnesses informed the F.B.I. that Ruby had to leave Chicago because of "some difficulty arising out of this union work": 23 H (CE 1515) 6; "Ruby...intimated that he had to leave Chicago because he had offended some of 'the big boys'...": 22 H (CE 1500) 98; one source reported that Lenny Patrick was rumored to have been involved: see 22 H (CE 1202) 318; see also 22 H (CE 1197) 315, (CE 1200) 317, (CE 1243) 353, (CE 1258) 366, and (CE 1277) 381: Edward Marris, Jr., Morris Hotel owner in West Yellowstone, Montana, maintained he knew about Ruby in Chicago and "that there was a rumor...that [Ruby] ...was run out of Chicago by 'the syndicate.'" Could Chicago have become too hot for Ruby after the Gilbert involvement in the Teamsters take-over attempt and subsequent Cooke-Martin shooting?

15, pp. 153-154

Ruby's possible immunity and informant status, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 41-44 (and citations, notes 176-203, pp. 71-72). Ruby as informer, 1938-1939, see above.

16, 17, p. 154

Cooke's shooting, in *Chicago Daily Tribune*, December 9th, 1-39. James Ragen, in John Bartlow Martin, "Al Capone's Successors," *American Mercury*, June 1949, and "Heirs of Capone," *Newsweek*, January 13th, 1947, reprinted as "Chicago After Capone," in *The American Way of Crime*, ed. Wayne Moquin (New York: Praeger Publishers, 1976), pp. 194-195, 197; hereafter cited as Martin, in *American*. See also "...Crime as an American Way of Life," by Daniel Bell, in *American*, pp. 213-216; and Scott, *Crime*, pp. 40-43; Reid, p. 216; Hammer, p. 220 and Scott, "From Dallas to Watergate," in *Assassinations*, pp. 368-369. The Lenny Patrick and Dave Yarass statements to the F.B.I., 22 H (CE 1202) 318 and 22 H (CE 1268) 372, seem incomplete, self-serving, and diversionary. The House Select Committee on Assassinations ought to pursue what the Warren Commission chose not to: the Ruby-Yaras-Hoffa connections and Ruby-Yaras-Trafficante connections. Scott convincingly outlined these ominous leads, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 42-43 (and citations, notes 187-192, p. 72).

18, pp. 154- 155

Gilbert, Kefauver Committee, Sun-Times information, primary, election, Kefauver report, in Williams, pp. 30-31; see also Hammer, p. 243. Gilbert's connections to the Guzik gambling enterprises (which included Chicago associates of Jack Ruby) are particularly relevant when set against the Guzik-Levine/Jones-Ruby-Guthrie-Butler incident. See below.

19, p. 155

The Convention roll-call, in Sorensen, pp. 158-159.

20, pp. 155-156

Ruby, Yaras, Patrick, and the Dave Miller Gang, in 20 H (Hall [C. Ray] Exhibit No. 1) 37-38, 22 H (CE 1202) 318, 22 H (CE 1239) 349, 22 H (CE 1268) 372, and 22 H (CE 1289) 425. Ruby and Jake Arvey, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 40 and 42, and notes 170 and 180, pp. 70 and 71. Cooke, Martin, State's Attorney's office, in *Chicago Daily Tribune*, December 9th, 1939; Gilbert, Richard Daley, and election, in Williams, pp. 30-31.

22, p. 156

Ruby, vice squad, pay-offs, etc., in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 43-44 (and citations). Ruby's travels are discussed below in relation to the post-war Guzik-Levine/Chicago Syndicate expansion; given Ruby's multiple relations to organized crime, domestic intelligence, and reputed police pay-off schemes, it is possible that Ruby was functioning similarly to Barney Baker, "reported muscle and bagman for Teamster President JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA": 25 (CE 2331) 291. See Ruby's travels to Houston, New Orleans, Cuba, Hawaii, Tulsa, and New York, for example: 20 H (Hall [C. Ray] Exhibit No. 3) 61, 22 H (CE 1440) 858, 22 H (CE 1445, 1446) 868, 22 H (CE 1447) 869; 23 H (CE 1530) 12, 23 H (CE 1521) 13; 23 H (CE 1522, 1523, 1524) 14-15; 23 H (CE 1580, 1581, 1582, 1583, 1584) 71-73.

24, pp. 157-158

Ruby, Special Services Bureau, and Dallas/Democratic power, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 43-45 (and citations). Ruby's relations to Lenny Patrick (with his Jake Arvey/Arthur X. Elrod Chicago connections), Ruby's own relations to Arvey family interests, the Collins-Clark-Maury Hughes circle (including the Houston Helfen/Robert R. McKeown connections), and the Murchison-Wynne "Del Charro set," in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 42 and 44-45 (and citations), were dangerous for the Warren Commission to explore too deeply - as they inevitably tracked back to various government contract deals involving the new president and his associates. A sophisticated analysis of the Warren Commission and its counsel still awaits writing. Early in Jimmy Carter's campaign, commentators noted the heavy concentration of "military-industrial complex," Johnson administration, and Trilateral Commission/Council on Foreign Relations and Rockefeller people clustering around the president-to-be. The most sophisticated analysis of this group can be found in David Wemple, "The International Power Brokers Who Have Jimmy Carter in their Pocket," *Gallery*, December, 1977, pp. 47-52 and 82. A future comparable study of the Warren and Rockefeller Commissions would initially draw on Canfield, pp. 181-196, Sid Blumenthal, "The Rockefeller Commission," in Blumenthal, pp.

243-249, Model, pp. 88-124, and Roffman, throughout, Weisberg (all volumes), throughout, and Scott, *Crime*, throughout. The following is offered as a micro-model: President Johnson's decision to intervene in the Dominican Republic in 1965 against the "worker-student" rebellion depended on the following "White House decision-makers": Abe Fortas, Adolf A. Berle, Jr., Ellsworth Bunker, W. Averill Harriman, J. M. Kaplan, Joseph S. Farland, Roswell Gilpatrick, and Max Rabb - all of them with *sugar interests* which "depended directly on the Dominican sugar and molasses supply" for their economic good health: see Fred Goff and Michael Lockes, *The Violence of Domination* (New York: North American Congress on Latin America, n.d.), cited in James Petras, "U.S. Business and Foreign Policy," *New Politics*, Fall, 1967, hereafter cited as Goff (in Petras). The American and multi-national corporate sugar interests had been concerned, of course, with Castro's 1959 takeover in Cuba, and an imminent revolution in the Dominican Republic in 1965 would have threatened the stability of sugar prices (at the least). Roswell Gilpatrick, one of those White House advisors, was Deputy Defense Secretary and a Kennedy family friend (Model, p. 97). Prior to the Kennedy assassination, several Congressional inquiries into General Dynamics/Convair Division were exploring the tactics used to obtain the important Navy contract for the TFX-11 experimental jet fighter - and Roswell Gilpatrick's involvement had been questioned (Model, p. 97). Gilpatrick was managing executive partner of the Wall Street firm, Craveth, Swaine and Moore, counsel to National Sugar and General Dynamics (Goff [in Petras], p. 76, and Model, p. 97). Johnson (as vice-president) had persuaded Kennedy to appoint Fred G. Korth (of Texas) to succeed John Connally (of Texas) as Secretary of the Navy (the Navy TFX-11 contract was an issue), but Korth resigned under fire when it was reported that Korth's bank had loan interests in General Dynamics (Model, p. 97). The TFX-11/ General Dynamics/ aerospace complexities can be sorted out (a bit) by consulting Adam Yarmolinsky, *The Military Establishment* (New York: Perennial Library/Harper and Row, 1973), pp. 47, 51, 206-209, 242, and 243-245. Attorney Albert E. Jenner, Jr., of Chicago, whose most important client, Henry Crown, was the biggest single General Dynamics shareholder, became assistant counsel to the Warren Commission in 1964 (Model, p. 103). Henry Crown was a Chicago financier and an important political associate of Jake Arvey (24th Ward, Chicago, Democratic National Committeeman, etc.); in turn, Arvey used Ruby's friends, Lenny Patrick and Dave Yaras, as "muscle" (Scott, *Crime*, p. 40). Yaras and Patrick were indicted but not prosecuted for the Ragen shooting in 1946 (Scott, *Crime*, p. 40), and after Ragen's murder and the take-over of the Annenberg-Ragen race-wire service, the chief profit-maker from the take-over was rumored to be Henry Crown (Scott, *Crime*, p. 40). Jack Ruby, of course, had been involved with the 24th Ward's Dusty Miller gang, including Arvey's muscle, Patrick and Yaras (see above), and in the Annenberg circulation "wars" (cf. Hammer, p. 28 and Messick, *Mobs*, p. 27). Crown's lawyer and Warren Commission counsel Albert E. Jenner, Jr., together with Wesley Liebler, took Dallas White Russian emigre' testimony (see Meagher, *Subject Index*, pp. 121-122 and 124-125), in particular, the crucial testimony of George de Mohrenschildt, in which Jenner constantly deflected the interrogation away from the Baron's intelligence connections: 19 H 166-284. Jenner's associate Liebler heard the testimony of Max E. Clark (George de Mohrenschildt's friend and an acquaintance of Lee Harvey Oswald) who was a Fort Worth attorney, an advisor to the White Russians, and a former industrial security agent for General Dynamics who had ties to the F.B.I., including a working arrangement with Bureau agent Earl Haley - who interviewed Max Clark for the Commission ( 8 H 343-355; see also references to Clark, in Index, 15 H 760). The White Russians for whom Max Clark acted as advisor were members of the C.I.A.- supported Russian

Orthodox Church which received funds through the Baird Foundation - and David Baird was accused of stock manipulation which ultimately benefited Henry Crown (Scott, *Crime*, p. 66). Jenner's Warren Commission responsibility was Oswald's background (including his relations with the aerospace/ petrochemical/ investment banking-oriented White Russians); Jenner was identified as one of the "key authors" of the *Warren Report*. Later, Jenner became the Republican Party's Minority Counsel in the House Judiciary Committee's Nixon impeachment proceedings (*Coincidence*, pp. 549-550, and citations). The Jenner-Henry Crown connection alone should have suggested conflict of interests to those responsible for selecting the Warren Commission's counsel, given the nature of the inquiry into the Dallas White Russian community and its relationships.

24. pp. 157-158

CD 1052 was the first Ruby document to get some media coverage in 1975 (see, for example, *Hartford Courant*, August 19th, 1975, and August 21st, 1975). CD 1052 was not, however, the first communication to the Warren Commission concerning Ruby's F.B.I. connections. On or about November 24th, 1963, F.B.I. agent Louis M. Kelley and others prepared materials for a Bureau "investigative report" on Jack Ruby (Louis M. Kelley, sworn affidavit dated June 4th, 1964, in CD 1052, available in the National Archives, hereafter cited as Kelley, in CD 1052). Agent Kelley's specific task was to do a "file review" and prepare a "physical description and biographical data" insert based upon materials from other F.B.I. agents and "from the Identification Division files of the Dallas Police Department" (Kelley, in CD 1052). The investigative report was assembled by "Special Agent Manning C. Clements at Dallas dated November 30, 1963" (letter from J. Edgar Hoover to J. Lee Rankin, General Counsel, Warren Commission, dated June 9th, 1964, in CD 1052, hereafter cited as Hoover, in CD 1052).

Whether or not that November 30th, 1964, F.B.I. summary report was sent to the Warren Commission, Hoover wrote to Rankin, February 27th, 1964, (1) explaining F.B.I. agent Charles W. Flynn's initial contact with Jack Ruby on March 11th, 1959 (and subsequent eight other meetings through October 2nd, 1959), (2) denying information was received from Ruby, and (3) explaining the phrase "known Dallas criminal" - which seems to have been included in the Clements summary report of November 30th, 1963 (Hoover, in CD 1052). Hoover's February 27th, 1964, letter to Rankin seems, therefore, a response to prior inquiries of Rankin, possibly in response to either the Clements report or a summary of the Clements report (the latter is more likely, since Rankin kept on asking for more information - at least some of which would have been supplied immediately if the entire Clements summary report of November 30th, 1964, had been sent to him).

While this Hoover- Rankin exchange on Jack Ruby was going on, Hubert and Griffin were attempting to get information from Richard Helms - without success (see below). Hoover's technique was to trickle out Ruby information, especially in the "informant" area. Rankin was not satisfied with Hoover's February 27th, 1964, response, and asked on March 3rd, 1964, for a search of *all* the Bureau's records for Ruby references. Hoover wrote to Rankin on April 7th, 1964, stating that

In response to your letter of March 3, 1964, a thorough search was made of all FBI records. Copies of all of the records located wherein mention is made of Ruby prior to November 23, 1963, have been prepared and are being forwarded to you.

With the exception of "Item 10" (CD 732j), which would have revealed the initial F.B.I. contact with Ruby on March 11th, 1959, the arbitrariness of (1) assigning Commission Exhibit designations to some of the Hoover "Enclosures" and (2) excluding or including the items by the Warren Commission, is obvious. Only some of the "Enclosures" were published. As the F.B.I. withheld the *extent* and *significance* of its contacts with Ruby from the Warren Commission (CD 732 and CD 1052), so also the Commission suppressed the very *fact* of an F.B.I.-Ruby relation. Beginning on April 2nd, 1976, John Richters, acting for both of us, has been communicating with the F.B.I. relative to an F.O.I.A. request for full disclosure of F.B.I. materials on Jack Ruby generated by F.B.I. agent Charles Flynn between March 11th, 1959, and October 2nd, 1959 (April 2nd, 1976, to Clarence M. Kelley; May 3rd, 1976, from Kelley; August 6th, 1976, from Richard M. Rogers, Deputy Chief, Freedom of Information and Privacy Unit, Office of the Deputy Attorney General; October 26th, 1977, from Quinlan J. Shea, Jr., Director, Office of Privacy and Information Appeals, Office of the Deputy Attorney General, and November 11th, 1977, to Quinlan J. Shea, Jr.). Concurrently, Richters has acted on our behalf in requesting *all* F.B.I. material on Jack Ruby either not published by the Warren Commission or *not available to the Commission* during its Ruby investigation. In several telephonic communications with Bureau agent Donald L. Smith (of the F.B.I.'s Freedom of Information-Privacy Acts Branch), including especially one conversation on May 18th, 1977, the Bureau - through agent Smith - admitted that much of the materials in its possession had not been seen by the Commission and that Richters' request was being honored for previously-undisclosed Ruby documents: in a letter to John Richters dated June 9th, 1977, F.B.I. Director Clarence M. Kelley asserted the Ruby material was "[now] available at the National Archives but was not published in the [Warren] Report...." Kelley's letter was silent as to whether the Ruby material was ever available to the Commission in 1963 and 1964. Hoover asserted that "a thorough search was made of all FBI records": letter to Rankin, April 7th, 1964, in CD 732. But the Bureau Director is now known to have had a "Do Not File" file for possibly embarrassing documents and reports; see Morton H. Halperin *et al.*, *The Lawless State* (New York: Penquin Books, 1976), p. 227, hereafter cited as Halperin. Since F.B.I. Director Kelley stated that 1,957 pages of Ruby material were now available to us under provisions of the FOIA (in a letter to John Richters, June 9th, 1977), and since Hoover sent only ten "Enclosures" to Rankin on April 7th, 1964, the conclusion is inescapable that Hoover sent Rankin something less than what seems to have been available. Hoover's letter to Rankin (dated April 7th, 1964) was, it seems, unsatisfactory: Rankin requested "summaries of FBI reports with regard to ten named persons and certain information regarding the contact by Special Agent Charles W. Flynn with Jack L. Ruby on March 11, 1959...." (Hoover, in CD 1052). Hoover also stated that the "summaries...are currently being prepared and will be forwarded...upon completion." (Hoover, in CD 1052) I have been unable to locate those "summaries" or identify Rankin's "ten named persons" so far; they may be the same Ruby-related individuals about whom Hubert and Griffin asked the C.I.A. (see below). Hoover asserted that Ruby "furnished no information whatsoever" - but the Flynn-Ruby documents we received in 1976 (see below) suggest Hoover was withholding information from Rankin. Nothing in the Commission's public record indicates that the Commission or its counsel saw the Flynn reports themselves.

24. p. 158

Hubert-Griffin/C.I.A. exchanges on Jack Ruby:

1. Hubert-Griffin to Helms, February 24th, 1964, in 26 H (CE 2980) 467-473;

Since very little - if any - F.B.I. material on Ruby generated prior to November 24th, 1963, can be found in the 26 Hearings volumes (other than some of the material which was sent attached to the April 7th, 1964, letter), I assume that Hoover's "forwarded" is equivalent to his "items enclosed": Hoover letter to J. Lee Rankin, with "Enclosures (10)," dated April 7th, 1964, in CD 732, available in the National Archives. "Enclosures (10)" are the "items enclosed," according to Hoover, and are designated CD 732 a through j. CD 732 is not, of course, in the 26 volumes, since it would have revealed a Ruby-F.B.I. connection when the Hearings volumes were released in 1964. Some of the enclosures/ items, however, were included in the volumes:

Item 1 = CD 732a = CE 1760: not in H

Item 2 = CD 732b = ? : not in H

Item 3 = CD 732c = CE 1761: in 23 H 369

Item 4 = CD 732d = CE 1693: in 23 H 166-167

Item 5 = CD 732e = ? : not in H

Item 6 = CD 732f = ? : not in H

Item 7 = CD 732g = ? : not in H

Item 8 = CD 732h = CE 1764: in 23 H 374

Item 9 = CE 732i = ? : not in H

Item 10= CD 732j = ? : not in H

2. Hubert-Griffin and Helms meeting, March 12th, 1964, in 26 H (CE 2980) 466;
  3. Rankin (for Hubert-Griffin) to Helms, May 19th, 1964, in 26 H (CE 2980) 466;
  4. Karamessines (for Helms) to J. Lee Rankin, September 15th, 1964, in 26 H (CE 2980) 466.
- 27, 28. pp. 158-159

The F.B.I. and anti-Communism in Halperin, pp. 61-134 (and citations: see especially p. 289, notes 1-8). See also Don Whitehead, *The FBI Story* (New York: Random House, 1956), pp. 27-53 and pp. 265-320: useful, though told from the Bureau's point of view ("Foreword" by J. Edgar Hoover, pp. xi-xv). See Stone, throughout, but especially pp. 23-30 and 218-226, and *Cointelpro*, ed. Cathy Perkus (New York: Monad Press, 1975).

32-38, pp. 160-162

The Hubert-Griffin memoranda:

- (1) to Howard P. Willins, Assistant Counsel and "liaison between the Commission and the Department of Justice" (R v), dated February 19th, 1964, available in the National Archives;
- (2) to "Members of the President's Commission," dated April 1st, 1964, available in the National Archives;
- (4) to J. Lee Rankin, dated May 14th, 1964, available in the National Archives.

See Lane, "Introduction-Retrospective," p. xxxv, for a sound evaluation of the Hubert-Griffin memoranda. However, Lane does not list the important March 20th, 1964, memorandum (to the Commissioners), and errs in stating all the memoranda were submitted "to the Commission" (p. xxxv): the February 24th, 1964 memo, in 26 H (CE 2980) 466-473, was submitted to the C.I.A., and the May 14th, 1964, memo was submitted to J. Lee Rankin, the Commission's Chief Counsel.





## NOTES

### CHAPTER 14

1. p.179

Bufalino's background, including McClellan Committee statement, in Ed Reid, *The Grim Reapers* (Chicago: Henry Regnery Co., 1969). p. 283, hereafter cited as Reid. Federal sentencing memo, in *New York Times*, October 22nd, 1977. Mannarinos and anti-Castro plots, in Anson, p. 299. Bufalino as "garment manufacturer," in *New York Times*, August 11th, 1977.

2. p.180

McClellan records, Apalachin, and Genovese, in Reid, p. 283.

3. p. 180

Anastasia murder, in Hammer, pp. 271-272. National Syndicate agreement, in Hammer, pp. 261-262.

4. p.180

Lansky-Genovese and Lansky-Anastasia, in Hammer, p. 270. Trafficante-Lansky, in Hammer, p. 271, and in Reid, pp. 93-94, see also Chapter 21, below.

5. pp.180-181

Genovese background, in Hammer, pp. 212-216; see especially Peter Maas, *The Valachi Papers* (New York: Bantam Books, 1968); see citations in index, p. 302; see, in particular, pp. 151-153 and 157, hereafter cited as Maas. Genovese-Costello, in Hammer, pp. 264-270. Nancy Perrin Rich-Ruby-Genovese, in 14 H 330-364; see also Lane, *Rush*, pp. 287-297, and Canfield, pp. 159-160.

6. p.181

Costello shooting, in Hammer, pp. 263-264.

7, p.181

Lansky, Costello, Zwillman, Genovese, Carfano, etc., in Hammer, pp. 266-270. Milt Jaffe in Ruby's notebook, cited in Model, p. 25. Bender, in Model p. 251.

8, p.181

Bender, in Hank Messick, *The Mob in Show Business* [originally: *The Beauties and the Beasts*] (New York: Pyramid Books, 1975). p. 113, hereafter cited as Messick, *Business*. Bender, in Mass, see citations in index, p. 299.

9, pp.181-182

Genovese tactics, including against Scalises, in Hammer, pp. 268-270.

10, p.182

Lansky, Anastasia, Profaci, and Gallo, in Hammer, pp. 270-272.

11, p.182

Apalachin meeting, in Hammer, p. 273.

12, p.182

Barbara associate, Crosswell, the Apalchin raid, in Hammer, p. 273.

13, p.183

Apalchin outcome, in Hammer, pp. 273-274.

14, p.183

Strollo/Bender, in Reid, p. 205. Bender disappearance, Genovese, Zwillman, in Reid, p. 278.

16, pp.183-184

Robert Kennedy statement; Teamsters/Syndicate ties, in Hammer, p. 295. Provenzano-Tramunti, in Hammer, p. 306-307. Corallo, in Hammer, pp. 295-296.

17, p.184

Corallo, Marcus, *et al.*, including Itkin, in Hammer, pp. 307-311.

18, p.184

Plumeri, Dioguardi brothers, in Maas, p. 174. Corallo, Dioguardi, and Waste Handlers Union, in Model pp. 243-244. Lucchese family, in Reid, p. 283.

19, p.184

Plumeri, Teamsters, and Itkin, in Hammer, p. 307.

20, pp.184-185

Marcus et al., indictment, in Reid, pp. 44-45.

21, p.185

Corallo, in Reid, p. 45, and in Ralph Salerno, *The Crime Confederation* (Doubleday and Co.: Garden City, New York, 1969), p. 258, hereafter cited as Salerno. Motto, in Salerno, p. 258, and in Hammer, p. 308. Motto, Marcus, Corallo deals, in Salerno, pp. 258-260. Marcus-Williams, in Salerno, p. 261.

22, p.185

F.B.I. and Marcus, in Salerno, p. 262, and in Reid, p. 45.

23, pp.185-186

Itkin, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Westrade, and Deschamps, in Reid, pp. 45-46, and Salerno, p. 257. Deschamps, Marcus, and Teamsters, in Reid, p. 46.

24, p.186

Itkin as intelligence agent, in Hammer, pp. 307-308, in Reid, p. 45, in Salerno, pp. 257 and 262. Plumeri's 1968-1970 indictments, in *The New York Times*, September 17th, 1971.

25, p.186

Itkin, Dominican Republic, Haiti, in Reid, p. 45. Itkin under guard, in Hammer, p. 311.

27, p.187

Herbert Atkin, in Dick Russell, "Three Witnesses [:] The Baron," *New Times*, June 24th, 1977, p. 32. According to Russell, Atkin is an "alleged" former C.I.A. employee prepared to testify that George de Mohrenschildt led a conspiracy to "overthrow" Haitian President Francois Duvalier in June, 1963; Atkin further maintained, according to Russell, that de Mohrenschildt was Atkin's "case officer" who used the name "Phillip Harbin"; George de Mohrenschildt's wife Jeanne was allegedly born in Harbin, China, which Russell suggested might be the origin of the alias. See Russell, p. 32. For Herbert Atkin's denial, see "Letters," *New Times*, August 18th, 1977, p. 5.

29, p.187

Plumeri and Granello, in *Time*, June 9th, 1975. See also *Coincidence*, p. 181.

30, p.187

"Sally's Stash," in Ernie Volkman, "How the CIA's Mafia Link Failed to Kill Fidel Castro," *Argosy*, February, 1977, p. 56. Bufalino, Plumeri, Granello, in Volkman, p. 56.

31, p.188

Sub-Mafia, in Volkman, p. 56.

32, p.188

Bufalino, et al., in assassination plot, in Tony Scaduto, "The CIA-Mafia Connection," *Genesis*, January, 1976, pp. 23 and 40.

33, p.188

Bufalino et al., and C.I.A., in Volkman, p. 56.

35, 36, p.188

Granello's death, in *New York Times*, October 6th, 1970. Plumeri's death, in *New York Times*, September 17th, 1971.

37, pp.188-189

Bufalino conviction, in *New York Times*, August 11th, 1977; Bufalino sentencing, in *New York Times*, October 22nd, 1977. According to the *Times*, the Federal sentencing memorandum documented Bufalino's high Syndicate standing; Bufalino

...continues to be the head of his own organized-crime family.

He resides part of the week in Kingston, Pa., and part in New York City, and from these bases he controls organized crime in the upstate New York and northeastern Pennsylvania regions as well as parts of New York City. He is affiliated with a nationwide organized-crime network.

The *Times* did not cite Bufalino's alleged participation in pre-Bay of Pigs activities, attempts against Fidel Castro, or his earlier alleged participation in planning and attending the meeting at Apalchin.

## NOTES

### CHAPTER 15

1. p.191

Roselli identified, and abdomen wound, in *Long Island Newsday*, August 9th, 1976. Jack Anderson and Roselli details, in *Springfield [Mass.] Daily News*, August 27th, 1976.

2. p.192

Church, Baker, and Roselli before Church Committee, *New York Post*, August 9th, 1976. Dade County detectives, in *Hartford Times*, August 11th, 1976. Senate Intelligence Committee, in *Hartford Courant*, August 11th, 1976. Levi, in *Hartford Courant*, August 14th, 1976. Roselli and Schweiker subcommittee, in *Hartford Courant*, August 11th, 1976. Justice Department, Havel, and Bell, in *Hartford Courant*, August 14th, 1976. Clarence Kelley statement, in *New York Times*, August 14th, 1976. Havel report of Levi authorization, in *New York Times*, August 14th 1976. *Times* editorial, in *New York Times*, August 14th, 1976.

3. 4. pp.192-193

UPI release on Cuban terrorist activity out of Miami and Agency use of Cubans and Syndicate, in *New York Times*, August 23rd, 1976. Roselli lawyer and Castro assassination attempts, in *Hartford Courant*, August 23rd, 1976.

6. p.193

Senate Intelligence Committee, Hart's trip, in UPI release, *Cleveland Press*, August 25th, 1976.

8. 9. pp.193-194

Jack Ruby-Castro story, in *New York Daily News*, July 4th, 1976.

10. p.194

Belli statements, in UPI release, *Hartford Times*, July 7th, 1976.

11, 12, pp.194-195

Sturgis story, in UPI release, *Hartford Times*, July 9th, 1976. Schweiker Report (see Introduction for full citation), p. 2, hereafter cited as SR.

14, pp.195-196

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15, p.196

Meyer Lansky, in Nicholas Gage, "The Little Big Man Who Laughs at the Law," *Atlantic*, July, 1970, pp. 68-69.

16, p.196

Lansky and Trafficante, and Luciano. Miami, and Havana, in Alfred McCoy, *The Politics of Heroin in Southeast Asia* (New York: Harper and Row, 1972), pp. 26-27, hereafter cited as McCoy.

17, 18, pp.196-197

For summary of Luciano's war-time activities and the Crime-Intelligence connection, see Anson, pp. 291-293 and 306-309 (see Anson's citations).

18, pp.196-197

For Syndicate and drugs, see Anson, pp. 292-295. Lansky's associates and their Havana activities, in *New York Daily News*, April 23rd, 1975; see also Anson, pp. 243-274 and 307-314. For Syndicate activities in Cuba, see *Coincidence*, pp. 316-327, 366-367, 367-372, and citations. For Roselli and the Sans Souci, see *Time*, August 23rd, 1976, p. 24. See also Chapters 13, 14, 19, 20, and 21, below.

19, p.197

Rothman, in *New York Times*, March 21st, 1959, and February 5th, 1960.

20, p.197

Fiorini/Sturgis admission, interview at the University of Hartford, November 22nd, 1976. Rockefeller Commission denial, in *Report to the President by the Commission on CIA Activities within the United States* (New York: Manor Books, 1975), p. 252, hereafter cited as RR.

21, 22, pp.197-198

For Fiorini/Sturgis, see Canfield, pp. 94-97. See also Jack Anderson, *Washington Post*, June 12th, 1960; and CD 59 and 395, available in the National Archives. See also Jack Anderson,

"We Will Finish the Job," *Parade*, May, 1961; and Horace Sutton, "The Curious Intrigues of Cuban Miami," in *Assassinations*, p. 397-398.

23, 24, pp.198-199

Castro and the casinos, in Anson, pp. 307-313 (see Anson's citations). Fiorini/Sturgis's double agency, in Canfield, pp. 96-97.

25, pp.199-200

On Ruby, see, for example, Anson, pp. 231-237; see also Canfield, pp. 151-180. For extended discussion of Ruby, see Chapter 13, above.

26, p.200

Ruby and the Dallas Special Services Bureau, in Anson, pp. 236-238. Ruby and Eberhardt, in 13 H 183; Ruby as "Potential Criminal Informant," in CD 1052, available in the National Archives; see also Anson's discussion, pp. 236-237, in the absence of the Flynn documents (discussed in Chapter 13, above); see also Lane, Rush, "Introduction - Retrospective," in Dell edition, 1975, vii-xvi, for valuable re-examination of Ruby's importance (again, in the absence of the Flynn documents).

27, pp.200-201

See Lane's review on Ruby, above. Sturgis has suggested he knew Hunt no later than 1961; see Anson, p. 276. Sturgis's Rockefeller testimony, in RR 253.

28, 29, 30, p.201-202

Sturgis-Lorenz-Rorke story, in AP releases, June 13th and 14th, 1976, based on *New York Daily News* stories, published in *Hartford Courant*, June 13th and 14th, 1976. Sturgis confirmed all the particulars in these AP releases in interviews on August 23rd, 1976 (in New York) and on November 22nd, 1976 (at the University of Hartford).

31, pp.302-303

Sturgis and the "adventurer-assassin-journalist" group, and the spurious Oswald stories, in CD 59, CD 395, and CD 1020, available in the National Archives, and Scott, "From Dallas to Watergate," in *Assassinations*, p. 360. See also editors' commentary, *Assassinations*, p. 356. J. Edgar Hoover letter dated December 5th, 1963, in 26 H 148. The Miami-Sturgis-Buchanan false Oswald stories, in Scott, "From Dallas to Watergate," *Assassinations*, pp. 360-363.

32, 33, pp.203-204

After crisis, the Kennedys, and Rorke, in *New York Times*, September 16th, 1963; see also Scott, in *Assassinations*, pp. 361-362 and 374; Canfield, pp. 100, 102, 107, 114, 135, 172 (on Rorke).

34, p.204

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June 8th, 1975, p. 25.

35, pp.204-205

Sturgis and Syndicate offers, in *New York Daily News*, April 23rd, 1975. Hubert and Griffin memoranda, full citations and discussion, in Chapter 13. Elaine Mynier, in F.B.I. file # DL 44-1639, dated November 30th, 1963, available in National Archives, cited in Canfield, p. 167. Sturgis on McWillie, Trafficante, Lanskys, and McLaney, in Canfield, p. 167. *Sturgis confirmed this statement on November 22nd, 1976, at the University of Hartford.*

36, p.205

"Fox brothers." in 5 H 205-208, and in Canfield, pp. 163-166 and 290. For McWillie's Havana-Syndicate connections, see CD 686d, available in the National Archives; see also Canfield, pp. 162-168. Ruby-"Santos" meetings in Cuba, in C.I.A. memorandum dated November 28th, 1963, Document #206-83.

37, p.205

Norman Rothman's importance in the possible Ruby-Sturgis-Rothman connection, in Scott, "From Dallas to Watergate," *Assassinations*, p. 370, originally published in 1973.



## NOTES

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2, p.207

Maheu as C.I.A., in July, 1975. Senate testimony: see Anson, p. 199, footnote. Sturgis-Rothman and Rothman meetings, in *New York Daily News*, April 23rd, 1975. Anson interview, in Anson, p. 391, note, note 118; attorney, former agent, in Anson, p. 299. Attorney's story, in *New York Times*, August 23rd, 1976. The lawyer, Drew Pearson, and the clients, in SR 80-84.

3, p.208

For Bissell-Edwards-Maheu, see AR 74 and 94-95. Maheu Associates and Hughes connection, in Canfield, p. 173; see also *New York Times*, July 31st, 1975; for extensive background on Maheu, see *Coincidence*, pp. 156-157, 165-166, 209-211, and 327-328.

4, p.108

Maheu testimony, in *New York Times*, April 13th, 1976.

5, p.208

Maheu and O'Connell, in Anson, p. 299, footnote. Maheu, Roselli, O'Connell, in *New York Times*, April 13th, 1976.

7, 8, pp.208-209

Chronology, in SR 99.

8, p.209

Edwards, in *New York Times*, April 13th, 1976, and SR 99. O'Connell, Harvey, and Roselli, in *Assassinations*, p. 377.

9, p.209

Roselli testimony, in *Time*, August 23rd, 1976, p. 24.

10, pp.209-210

Maheu, Roselli, and Giancana, in *New York Times*, April 13th, 1976. Roselli-Trafficante meeting, in *New York Daily News*, April 23rd, 1975. For "Chronology," see above. Anderson on Harvey, in Anderson, *Hartford Times*, September 10th, 1976.

11, p.210

*Time* report on Roselli, cited in Model, p. 218. Roselli, Cuban exiles, and C.I.A., in Canfield, p. 170.

12, p.210

Anderson on Maheu, in Anderson, *Miami Herald*, January 19th, 1971.

13, p.211

Anderson on the Castro-plot "backfire," in Anderson, *Washington Post*, March 23rd, 1967. Robert Kennedy and Syndicate use of "Mafia," in *New York Times*, March 10th, 1975. See also, Scott, *Crime*, "The CIA-Mafia plot as Political Blackmail," pp. 23-27.

14, p.211

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15, p.212

Anderson and Sturgis, in Canfield, pp. 97, 101, and 107, for example. See also Fred D. Thompson, *At that Point in Time* (New York Quadrangle, The New York Times Book Company, 1975), pp. 213-221, hereafter cited as Thompson, *Point*.

16, p.212

Roselli-Maheu admissions, in *New York Times*, April 13, 1976. The "Washington lawyer" story, in SR 80-86. The "New Jersey" reference, in SR 84. Edward P. Morgan identified, in *Washington Post*, August 22nd, 1976. Castro's "counterassassins," in SR 84. Castro's "teams," in *Hartford Courant*, August 23rd, 1976.

17, p.212

See Halperin, p. 34 (on C.I.A. - *New York Times* cooperation). An overlooked but irreplaceable study of the "Control of the Media - 1967 to 1976" can be found in Richard E. Sprague, *The Taking of America* (Hartsdale, New York: Richard E. Sprague, 1976), pp. 90-160, which anticipated all the Agency-media "revelations" of 1977; hereafter cited as Sprague. See also Sprague, pp. 21-24.

18, 19, p.213

Pearson-Warren, etc., in SR 80.

19, 20, p.214

Morgan-F.B.I.-Kleindeinst, in Norman Kempster, *Los Angeles Times* story, in *New York Post*, August 9th, 1976.

20, 21, pp.214-215

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22, pp.215-216

Schweiker chronology, in SR 99-100. For items left out of chronology, including phase one and phase two, see *New York Times*, April 13th, 1976.

23, p.216

Ruby's possible role, in Canfield, pp. 170-171.

24, p.217

For Anderson admission, see Anderson, *Hartford Times*, September 10th, 1976.

25, pp.217-218

Anderson's assassination scenario, in Anderson, *New York Daily News*, September 7th, 1976.

26, p.218

Bissell-Dulles knowledge, in Anson, p. 269, footnote. In an interview with Richard Bissell, September 16th, 1976, my colleague Harald Sandstrom asked Bissell about this shared knowledge, and Bissell included Office of Security Chief Sheffield Edwards.



## NOTES

### CHAPTER 17

1, p.219

Basic texts for a study of James Hoffa are Ralph and Estelle James, *James Hoffa and the Teamsters* (Princeton, N.J.: Van Nostrand, 1965), hereafter cited as James; Walter Sheridan, *The Fall and Rise of Jimmy Hoffa* (New York: Saturday Review Press, 1972), hereafter cited as Sheridan; Kennedy; James Hoffa and Oscar Fraley, *Hoffa, The Real Story* (New York: Stein and Day, 1975); "Interview with James R. Hoffa," *Playboy*, December, 1975, hereafter cited as Hoffa. See also Scott, *Crime*, pp. 12, 21-22, 27-28, 34, 39, and 46, especially citations; Hammer, pp. 289-295; Anson, pp. 317-327; and *Coincidence*, pp. 349-363 (see citations).

4, p.220

Background on Hoffa and the Teamsters, in general, see above; in particular, in Kennedy, pp. 84-86; Sheridan, pp. 27-28, 156-157, 300-301, 407-408; Roger Langley, "The Frightening Power of the Teamsters' Union," *The Star*, September 7th, 1976, pp. 15-16, and Wallace Turner, "Teamsters Union Lends Millions to Gamblers," *Hartford Times* (reprint of *N. Y. Times News Service*), November 22nd, 1963.

4, 5, 6, p.220

On Dorfman, see Kennedy, pp. 84-86; *New York Times*, November 25th, 1963; Sheridan, p. 408; *The Star*, September 7th, 1976, p. 16; Anson, pp. 233-234; and *Coincidence*, p. 133: *Coincidence* promises a section on Dorfman (see p. 356), but, unfortunately, it is missing.

7, p.220

Hoffa's power, in Hammer, p. 291.

8, p.220

Teamsters-Las Vegas, in Wallace Turner, *Hartford Times*, November 22nd, 1963; see also *The Star*, September 7th, 1976, pp. 15-16.

9, p.221

Kennedy-McClellan, in Anson, pp. 314-315, 319; the "Get-Hoffa" drive, in Victor S. Navesky, *Kennedy Justice* (New York: Atheneum Publishers, 1971), pp. 44-57, hereafter cited as Navesky. See also Anson, pp. 319-320, and *Coincidence*, pp. 349-350, 353-354. Hoffa extortion story, jury, and jury-tampering, in Sheridan, p. 7. For Hoffa and Partin (the key witness), see Edward Partin, "An Insider's Chilling Story of Hoffa's Savage Kingdom," *Life*, May 15th, 1964.

10, pp.221-222

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11, p.222

Williams-Kennedys, in Scott, p. 22 (see his note 78, p. 58). Williams' counterattack, and Williams-Baker-Levinson, in Hank Messick, *Secret File* (New York: G. P. Putnam, 1969, pp. 348-349, hereafter cited as Messick, *Secret*.

12, pp.222-223

Garrison investigation as disinformation, in Sheridan, pp. 408-505, and Edward Jay Epstein, *Counterplot* (New York: Viking, 1969), pp. 41-42; see also Scott, pp. 27-28. Scott traced an important Garrison understructure leading back to the Oswald-in-New Orleans story: a Russell Long corporation identified as a "conduit" for petrochemical-industry payoffs had as its vice-president, Seymour Weiss. Weiss (along with Hoffa-Trafficante-Lansky associate Carlos Marcello) reputedly ruled the Syndicate in New Orleans, and was a long-time member of INCA, for whom Ed Butler, the "moderator" of the radio "debate" between Oswald and Bringuier, made "truth tapes"; finally, Weiss was a friend of Meyer Lansky. See Scott, *Crime*, pp. 14-15, pp. 27-28, note 42, p. 55, and note 98, p. 60. For Zagri, Ed Long, Hoffa, and Morris Shenker, see Salerno, p. 253, and Messick, *Secret*, pp. 349-351. Senator Edward Long was also approached by the C.I.A. and advised not to ask Robert Maheu to testify before Long's committee because of Maheu's C.I.A. activities - part of the Morgan-Maheu-Roselli leverage exerted in 1966 and '67 (see Scott, *Crime*, p. 23). On May 26th, 1967, *Life* magazine associate editor William Lambert revealed the Ed Long-Shenker relation and accused Senator Edward Long of abuse of Congressional and committee power in his efforts on behalf of Jimmy Hoffa; the charges ultimately led to Long's defeat in a 1968 Missouri primary. See Messick, *Secret*, pp. 358-359.

13, p.223

For Duclos, see Hubert and Griffin memoranda, February 19th, 1964, March 20th, 1964, April 1st, 1964, and May 14th, 1964, available in the National Archives (see Chapter 13, on Ruby,

above). See F.B.I. File # DL 44-1639, available in the National Archives. Duclos, Chavez, and Union Gastronomica-Teamsters conflict, in Ed Reid and Ovid Demaris, *The Green Felt Jungle* (New York: Cardinal/Pocket Books, 1964), p. 87, hereafter cited as Reid and Demaris. Duclos, Chavez, and Ruby statement, in F.B.I. December 2nd, 1963, report, cited in *Coincidence*, pp. 360-361. Hubert and Griffin memorandum to C.I.A. Deputy Director Richard Helms, February 24th, 1964, on Duclos, 26 H (CE 2980) 472. Helms' non-response (the *Warren Report* was being printed) from Thomas H. Karamessines, Acting Deputy Director of Plans, in 26 H (CE 2980) 466. Arrested with Lee Harvey Oswald on August 9th, 1963, were Celso M. Hernandez, Carlos Bringuier, and Miguel Cruz: see 25 H (CE 2210) 90 and 25 H (CE 2216) 117. It would not be surprising if the Chavez-Duclos Miguel Cruz and the Hernandez-Bringuier Miguel Cruz were one-and-the-same man.

14, 15, 16, 17, pp.223-225

For Mike Singer et al., and Baker-Levinson-Jones, see Reid, pp. 122-128, 130, 132, 138-139, and 235. For Duclos and Chavez, see *Coincidence*, pp. 359-363. Chavez was murdered by his own men (*Coincidence*, p. 363). Duclos, a potentially-important House Select Committee witness, reportedly cannot be located (*Coincidence*, p. 362). Lansky, McLaney, de Mohrenschildt, in Chapter 21, below.

19, p.225

Detroit Secret Service report, in 26 H (CE 2979) 463. Hoffa-Lansky, in Hank Messick, *Silent Syndicate* (New York: Macmillan Company, 1967), p. 272, hereafter cited as Messick, *Silent*; and Hank Messick, *John Edgar Hoover* (New York: David McKay Co. 1972), pp. 182-187, hereafter cited as Messick, *Hoover*. Justice Department memo, cited in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 45-56.

20, pp.225-226

F.B.I. summary, cited in *Detroit News*, August 1st, 1976, reported in AP release, *Los Angeles Times*, August 2nd, 1976. Giacalone and Zirilli have both been involved in the Hoffa disappearance inquiry; Giacalone's girl friend, Sylvia Paris, reportedly was the mother of Charles "Chuckie" O'Brien, self-styled foster-son of Jimmy Hoffa and suspected of being either a principal or patsy in the Hoffa case; Zirilli went before a Hoffa grand jury twice (October 8th and 22nd, 1976): see *Los Angeles Times*, August 2nd, 1976.

21, 22, 23, 25, pp.226-227

Crimaldi story, in Knight News Wire story, *Hartford Courant*, October 3rd, 1976. Chicago Syndicate shuffle, and DeStefano, in Hammer, pp. 333-334.

24, p.227

Hoffa-Castro, in Leek, p. 315.

26, p.227

Maheu, Hughes, Roselli, in Elaine Davenport and Paul Eddy, with Mark Hurwitz, *The Hughes Papers* (New York: Ballantine Books, 1976), pp. 58-59, hereafter cited as Davenport.

27, p.227

Dalitz response, Cleveland Syndicate, and Dalitz travels in Davenport, p.59.

28, p.227

Desert Inn suites and Dalitz's alleged demand, in Davenport, pp.59-60.

29, p.228

Morgan-Maheu Background, in Davenport, p. 60 and in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 24-25; for Davidson, see Scott, p. 28 (and citations).

30, p.228

Morgan-Maheu-Hoffa-Desert Inn, in Davenport, p. 60; Crimaldi on Hoffa-Syndicate/C.I.A., in *Hartford Courant*, October 3rd, 1976.

31, p.229

Dalitz's testimony given in the 1974 Maheu-Hughes \$17.5 million defamation of character suit: see *Los Angeles Times*, March 30th, 1974, and Davenport, pp. 234-243 - Dalitz's testimony is narrated on pp. 61-65. See also *Coincidence*, pp. 329 and 333-335. Noah Dietrich supports my judgment that the Hughes "takeover" was not catalyzed by Moe Dalitz's alleged anger, calling that story a "legend," and pointing out that Hughes had \$546,549,771 in his possession as of May 3rd, 1966, the payment for Hughes' TWA shares - and Hughes was looking for a place to invest it; hence, Las Vegas. Hughes was probably Nevada's biggest land owner (25,000 acres) before he bought the Desert Inn. See Noah Dietrich, *Howard[:] The Amazing Mr. Hughes* (Greenwich, Conn.: Fawcett Publications, Inc., 1976 [Revised Edition]), pp. 304-305, hereafter cited as Dietrich. The Maheu-Dalitz-Hughes deal, in Davenport, pp. 60-63. For Greenspun's role in the Morgan-Maheu-Hughes relationship, see Scott, *Crime*, note 105, p.61.

32, p.229

Dalitz stays on at Desert Inn, in Davenport, p. 64; see also Omar Garrison, *Howard Hughes in Las Vegas* (New York: Dell, 1970), pp. 56-58, hereafter cited as Omar Garrison. Desert Inn (and other Hughes "purchases") as "laundering" operation, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 29-30. For the links between the "Save-Hoffa" campaign, the new "clean" Teamsters image, and the Hoffa-oriented Syndicate sales to Hughes (leaving the agents of organized crime in place), see Scott, *Crime*, p. 28 and note 103, p. 61 (see citations). La Costa as a Teamsters-Syndicate operation, see *Rancho La Costa, Inc. et al. vs. Penthouse International Ltd., et al.*, No. C 124 901, Los Angeles Superior Court, papers, affidavits, and defendants' answers. *Penthouse* magazine alleged that La Costa had been funded by the Teamsters and controlled by the Syndicate. See *New York Times*, October 10th, 1975. See also Anson, p. 323. July, 1968, La Costa meeting, in Reid, p. 263. For Sidney Korshak, see *New York Times* series by Seymour M. Hersh, reprinted in the *Arizona Republic*, June 27th, June 28th, July 1st, July 2nd, July 3rd, and July 4th, 1976, and Messick, *Business*, pp. 244-255. Jack Ruby made a series of calls to Teamsters/AGVA/Associated Booking Corporation people in the months, weeks, and even days before the Kennedy assassination. The F.B.I. reported that some of these calls were about Ruby's union problems ("AGVA business"), but failed to follow up leads to the Teamsters (and Giancana's Chicago Syndicate group) through AGVA and to Sidney Korshak (called one of the four or five most important individuals in organized crime by a number of investigators: see Hersh series, above) through Ruby's contacts with Joseph Glaser, Korshak's man at Associated Booking. See 5 H 200; 14 H 446; 22 H (CE 1448) 870-871; 23 H (CE 1543) 35-36; 23 H (CE 1544) 36; and 23 H (CE 1765) 374-375 (for Joseph Glaser). See also 20 H (Hall [C. Ray]



Exhibit No. 3) 61: Ruby said

...that in the summer of 1963 he flew via American Air Lines to New York City, where he remained for two or three days at the new Hilton Hotel. He said his purpose was to see JOE GLASER, a booking agent, and to see officials of American Guild of Variety Artists in order to register complaints relative to competitors in Dallas.

Typical of the unsolicited information the Warren Commission's investigators received which they then ignored, did not report, or dismissed, was that of Irwin Charles Mazzei, Western Regional Director of AGVA:

Ruby had mentioned that he had connections with the "Syndicate" and labor in Chicago and used to work for the "Syndicate" in Chicago. 23 H (CE 1543) 35

Scott, *Crime*, is the only Kennedy researcher who has noted Korshak's links to both Rosselli (in the 40s) and Ruby (through Glaser); see pp. 30 and 45 (and citations).

33, pp.229-230

Hughes leasing to former Desert Inn owners, in John Keats, *Howard Hughes* (New York: Pyramid Books, 1970), p. 329, hereafter cited as Keats. Roselli, gift-shop, and finder's fee, in *Time*, December 21st, 1970, p. 63.

Dalitz stays on, in Davenport, p. 64. Roselli, Morgan, Greenspun fees, in Davenport, p. 65, and Scott, *Crime*, p. 29 (see citations). Anderson-Greenspun, in Scott, *Crime*, note 105, p. 61 (see citation). Anderson credited, in *Washington Observer*, April 15th, 1967. Cecil Simmons, in *Wall Street Journal*, July 31st, 1973. F.B.I. report on Simmons, in 23 H (CE 1591) 77.

34, p.230

Greenspun-Morgan-Anderson and Hughes Tool, in *Washington Observer*, April 15th, 1967.

37, p.231

Crimaldi and House investigators, in Howard Kohn, "Execution for the Witnesses," *Rolling Stone*, June 2nd, 1977 (pre-dated one month in advance). Crimaldi's story first appeared in Knight News Wire story, in *Hartford Courant*, October 3rd, 1976.

38, p.231

Ozer and Hoffa break, in *People*, November 8th, 1976, pp. 24-25.

39, pp.231-232

Hoffa and Provenzano in Lewisburg, in Ernie Volkman, "The Real Reason Behind Jimmy Hoffa's Murder," *Argosy*, November, 1976, p. 31.

40, p.232

Hoffa agreement to cooperate, in *People*, November 8th, pp. 24-25.

41, p.232

Justice Department version of Hoffa's death, in *People*, November 8th, 1976, pp. 24-25, and Volkman, *Argosy*, November, 1976, p. 35.

42, p.232

Chicago organization rumblings, in Reid, p. 267.

43, p.233

Spilotro and Circus Circus, in Langley, *The Star*, September 7th, 1976, pp. 15-16.

43, 44, 45, p.233

August, 1976, "assassin"'s story, in "Mystery Man Names Hoffa's Killers," *The Star*, August 31st, 1976, pp. 4-6.

46, pp.233-234

Collapse of Hoffa inquiry, in *New York Times*, July 8th, 1977.

47, p.234

Morgan allegations, in F.B.I. "blind memorandum" from Washington Field Office to F.B.I. headquarters, dated March 21st, 1967, in SR 84.

48, 49, p.234

Fitzsimmons, Shenker, Dorfman meeting, and Fitzsimmons-Nixon, in Jeff Gerth, "Richard M. Nixon and Organized Crime," in Blumenthal, pp. 132-133. Nixon-Angelo "Gyp" De Carlo-Kleindeinst, in Gerth, p. 136. For the Sinatra-Agnew connection to the De Carlo deal, see Charlie McCollum, "Nixon, Colson, and the Mafia," in *Real Paper*, August 8th, 1973.

50, 51, p.235

Alleged Provenzano-Nixon "pay-off." in *Time*, (dated) August 8th, 1977, and in AP release, *Hartford Courant*., August 1st, 1977. On August 2nd, 1977, spokespersons for Nixon and Fitzsimmons issued denials, in UPI release, *Hartford Courant*, August 2nd, 1977. On August 3rd, 1977, the *New York Times* reported that the "government informant" - Ralph Picardo - who broke the Nixon-Provenzano-Dorfman-Fitzsimmons story was also the informer who fingered Provenzano associates' Thomas Andretta and Salvatore and Gabriel Briguglio as Hoffa's alleged killers. Ralph Picardo, convicted of second-degree murder in the 1974 killing of Nicholas Trombetta (*New York Times*, August 3rd, 1977), was scheduled for a new trial, the earlier conviction having been reversed by the Hudson county, New Jersey, Superior Court on June 17th, 1977 (*New York Times*, August 5th, 1977).

52, p.235

Fitzsimmons, Dorfman, and Rosanova, and Dean, Mitchell, and Ehrilichman, in Gerth, in Blumenthal, p. 131, and pp. 134-135. See also McCollum, August 8th, 1973. Nixon,

Fitzsimmons, Provenzano, and Dorfman play golf, in Gerth, in Blumenthal, p. 130.

55, p.235-236

Hoffa-Akros Dynamics, in Kennedy, p. 179. Partin-Hoffa, in *Coincidence*, pp. 351-353.  
Ferrie-Marcello, in *Coincidence*, pp. 295-316.



## NOTES

### CHAPTER 18

1, p. 238

Maheu, 1940; Arizona, Seattle, Yvette, and Washington, 1942, in Davenport, pp. 41-43.

2, p. 238

Maheu-Coste; promotion; New York, in Davenport, pp. 43-44.

3, p. 238

Yvette; 1947 resignation, bankruptcy; Small Defense Plants; SBA; 1955 resignation, in Davenport, pp. 44-46.

4, p. 238

For history of C.I.A., see David Wise and Thomas B. Ross, *The Invisible Government* (New York: Vintage Books/ Random House, 1974), pp. 218-260, hereafter cited as Wise; Victor Marchetti and John D. Marks, *The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence* (New York: Dell, 1974), hereafter cited as Marchetti; and L. Fletcher Prouty, *The Secret Team* (Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1973), pp. 54-121 and pp. 244-312, hereafter cited as Prouty. See also Ole R. Holsti, "The Cognitive Structuring of John Foster Dulles," in John H. Kessel et al., *Micropolitics* (New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, Inc., 1970). The *Micropolitics* test will hereafter be cited as Kessel. Hughes and the F-11, in Dietrich, p. 169 (see pp. 167-170). Bissell and the U-2, in Prouty, pp. 156, 328, 272, 378; in Marchetti, p. 92.

5, pp. 238-239

C.I.A. development, in Howard Kohn, "Strange Bedfellows [:] The Hughes- Nixon- Lansky Connection: The Secret Alliances of the CIA from World War II to Watergate," *Rolling Stone*, May 20th, 1976, p. 41, hereafter cited as Kohn, "Bedfellows." Kohn's long article is studded with the phrase "according to CIA sources" (or a similar phrase), suggesting Kohn's discussion was developed with information of reasonably-high reliability. Kohn's organization has a certain monocentric elegance which ought to be modified by the dialectical structure of Oglesby's Yankee/ Cowboy- conflict theory with its shifting relations, internal disputes, and external antagonisms between Intelligence, Nixon, Lansky, Hughes, etc.: see especially pp. 3-44, 305-310, and 323-325. See also Carl Oglesby, "Presidential Assassinations and the Closing of the Frontier," in Blumenthal, pp. 188-207. Also helpful are Seymour Melman, *The Permanent War Economy* (New York: Touchstone Book/ Simon and Schuster, 1974), hereafter cited as Melman, and Richard J. Barnet and Ronald E. Muller, *Global Reach [:] The Power of the Multinational Corporations* (New York: Touchstone Book/ Simon and Schuster, 1974), hereafter cited as Barnet.

7, pp. 239-240

Maheu and the Society, in Davenport, p. 46.

9, 10, pp. 240-242

"Operation Underworld," in Martin A. Gosch and Richard Hammer, *The Last Testament of Lucky Luciano* (Boston: Little, Brown, and Co., 1975), pp. 261-262, hereafter cited as Gosch; McCoy, pp. 19 and 22-24; Anson, pp. 291-293 (see citations); Kohn, "Bedfellows," pp. 41-42; Hammer, pp. 209-212; Oglesby, pp. 30-35 (a clear and coherent exposition). Mafia and the French docks, McCoy, pp. 29 and 42-46.

11, p. 241

C.I.A.-Luciano; smuggling; and Marseilles, in Kohn, "Bedfellows," pp. 41-42.

12, p. 241

American intelligence, the Gehlen organization, Vlasov, and the C.I.A., in Oglesby, pp. 39-44. See also *The Service: The Memoirs of General Reinhard Gehlen* (New York: World Publishing, 1972), translated by David Irving, especially pp. 83-92 (Vlasov - as spelled in Gehlen's memoirs); see also Gehlen-Vlasov, pp. 101-102; Gehlen-C.I.A., pp. 141-148, 195-199, 217 ff.; Gehlen-F.B.I., p. 225; Gehlen- Israeli/ French/ British/ C.I.A. cooperation, p. 228; Gehlen organization in Cuba and South America, p. 238; Gehlen agents active in Cuba, October, 1962, p. 257; and the Vlasov "project," p. 303.

13, pp. 241-242

Hughes-C.I.A.-Cay Sal, and Toolco, in Kohn, "Bedfellows," p. 45; Hemming, in Kohn, "Bedfellows," p. 45.

Hemming was head of Interpen (ultimately associated with Sturgis's I.A.B.); he and his recruits trained on No Name Key, in the Everglades (*Miami News*, October 30th, 1962). Hemming and Loran Eugene Hall were the temporary focus of the F.B.I. when the Bureau received information that Hall had taken a rifle out of pawn on September 18th, 1963, which allegedly matched a rifle displayed in a television news program (out of Dallas) on November 23rd, 1963. See CD 1179, available in the National Archives. See also Canfield, pp. 99 and 137 (see citations).

14, p. 242

Maheu-Bellino, in Davenport, pp. 46-47. Bellino in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 33-34 and note 139, pp. 65-66; and in *Coincidence*, p. 271.

15, pp. 242-243

Maheu and C.I.A., in *Coincidence*, pp. 328-330 (see citations). The "likely candidates," in Davenport, p. 49. Roselli's career, pp. 48-49, including reduction of Syndicate visibility, in

Davenport, p. 48.

17, 18, p. 243

*Jazz Singer*, October 6th, 1927, in Messick, *Business*, p. 65, and Dietrich, p. 49. The war movie; the added sound; the replacement of Nissen by Harlow, in Messick, *Business*, p. 65, and Dietrich, p. 49. Joe Engle, Hal Roach, Harlow hired, in Dietrich, p. 50; three years and \$3.5 million. in Dietrich, p. 50.

19, p. 243

Harlow's tour, in Deitrich, p. 114, and in Messick, *Business*, pp. 54-57.

20, p. 244

Harlow- Zwillman, in Messick, *Business*, pp. 57-61, 70-72; Zwillman- Dalitz- Harlow in Cleveland, in Messick, *Business*, pp. 72-73.

21, p. 244

Zwillman, Schenck, United Artists, and Caddo Corporation, in Messick, *Business*, pp. 73-75. Harlow's contract and MGM, in Dietrich, p. 114.

22, p. 244

Zwillman- Harlow- Roselli, in Messick, *Business*, p. 75.





## NOTES

### CHAPTER 19

1, p.245

March 17th, 1960, in Wise, p. 25. Anti-Castro planning preceded the March 17th, 1960, Eisenhower authorization for "Operation Lake," in Model, p. 213; see SR 99:

*December 11 [1959] - Dulles approves "thorough consideration be given to the elimination of Fidel Castro." (italics in original)*

Kohly-Nixon-Cabell-Barnes, in Morrow, *Betrayal*, pp. xiii-xiv. "Operation Lake" became "Operation Pluto" under Kennedy, in Morrow, p. xiv; Kohly's forces, pp. xiv-xv.

2, p.245

Kohly, assassination of CRF leaders, Cuban-exile split, in Morrow, unpublished manuscript submitted to the House Select Committee, 1976, "Background Brief," p. 4, hereafter cited as Morrow, "Background." State Department "influence," Cuban leaders, Nixon's motivation, in Morrow, "Background," pp. 3-4. See also Morrow, *Betrayal*, pp. xiv-xv. Barnes-Cabell confirmations, in Morrow, "Background," p. 5. Hunt resigns, in Tad Szulc, *Compulsive Spy* (New York: The Viking Press, 1974), pp. 79-80, hereafter cited as Szulc.

3, p.246

The "installations," in Morrow, unpublished manuscript (see note 2), "General Chronology," p. 1; State informed, p. 1. Sturgis-Lorenz-Rorke poisoning plot, in AP release (based on *New York Daily News* story), *Hartford Courant*, June 13th, 1976; see also June 14th, 1976. Harvey-Roselli, 1959, in *New York Times*, April 13th, 1976. Plumeri, et al., in Volkman, February, 1977, p. 56; see earlier, *Time*, June 9th, 1975. George Levine included, in Kohn, "Bedfellows," p. 47.

4, 5, p.246

The "special" assignment, in Phillips, pp. 80-83. For AMBLOOD and Veciana assassination attempts, see Chapter 11, above.

6, p.247

C.I.A.'s "chief agent," in Volkman, February, 1977, p. 57. Langley "retirement party," in Phillips, p. 281. C.I.A.'s "chief agent" and the anti-Castro Cuban, in Volkman, February, 1977, p. 57. Barnes, King, and Hunt against Arbenz, in Canfield, p. 35. Eisenhower approval and Dulles' commission, in Canfield, pp. 73-74. King and Barnes response, in Volkman, February, 1977, p. 57.

7, p.247

Bribes, second cable, in Volkman, February, 1977, p. 57.

8, p.248

The title, *The Night Watch*, is a homonymic pun, I believe. Phillips wrote that Howard Hunt recounted Hunt's and Phillips's work "on the Guatemala project" in his book, *Give Us This Day*, where he called Phillips by the alias "Knight" (Phillips, pp. 88 and 91). The pun, of course, is the "night watch" as well as the "Knight watch": the watch at night, the watch by Knight. Did Phillips inadvertently disclose to his readers that Hunt knew his "real" alias, and, instead of Knight, might it have been Bishop?

9,10 p.248

December 11th, 1959, in SR 99. The March, 1960, date is based on a heavily-censored C.I.A. document released in 1976 in a suit by the A.C.L.U. brought on behalf of Robert Borosage (of the Center For National Security Studies, Washington, D.C.). According to the "MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD," the subject was the "First Meeting of Branch 4 Task Force, 9 March, 1960," whose "PARTICIPANTS" were "Col. J.C. King, CWH" - "and other CIA personnel," the latter phrase added with a typewriter other than the original after the rest of the participants' names had been deleted. Only a fragment of what "Col. King" (or a deleted participant) said at the meeting remained:

CASTRO and Che GUEVERA could be eliminated in one package - which is highly unlikely - this operation can be a long, drawn-out affair and the present government will only be overthrown by use of force. (reproduced as in original)

September 7th, 1960, in Volkman, February, 1977, p. 58. Dulles-Bissell-Edwards Maheu contact in AR 74; a still unnamed "chief of the Operational Support Division of the Office of Security" was assigned by Edwards to assist in the Castro assassination plan (AR 74). Maheu's "wide circle" of friends, in Volkman, February, 1977, p. 58.

10, 11, pp.248-249

Maheu recruited, in AR 74. Richard Bissell interview (by Harald Sandstrom, at the University of Hartford), September 16th, 1976. Roselli involved, in Volkman, February, 1977, p. 58.

11, 12, p.249

September 7th, 1960, meeting, in Volkman, February, 1977. See also AR 74. September 14th,

1960, meeting, in AR 76. Miami meeting within ten days, in AR 76. Trafficante and Giancana introduced, in AR 77. Giancana and Maheu were reported to have met "almost daily" thereafter (in conspiring to kill Fidel Castro: AR 77).

13, 14, 15, pp.249-251

Scalzetti, in Reid, p. 287. Richard Cain, in William Brashler, *The Don [:] The Life and Death of Sam Giancana* (New York: Harper and Row, 1977), p. 287-289, 293, 301,305-306, hereafter cited as Brashler. Cain's early anti-Castro involvement, in Model, p. 218. See also Charles Ashman, *The CIA-Mafia Link* (New York: Manor Books, Inc., 1976), p. 72, hereafter cited as Ashman. DeStefano, in Brashler, p. 303-304.

16, p.251

Giancana's power, in Brashler, p. 245.

16, p. 251

Shimon's testimony (September, 1975, Senate Intelligence Committee, executive session), AR 81-82.

18, pp.251-252

For the Giancana-McWillie-Sinatra/Cal-Neva story, see Scott, p. 42 and end notes 185 and 186, p. 71, and citations, including 23 H (CE 1692) 165, and CD 686d, available in the National Archives and reproduced in Canfield, p. 294. See also Brashler, pp. 200-202, and Hammer, pp. 311-313. The Giancana-Sinatra-Kennedy connection (including Judy Exner Campbell) has evoked some strange responses, but the most valuable are Robert Sam Anson, "Jack, Judy, Sam & Johnny...& Frank, Fidel, Edgar....," *New Times*, January 23rd, 1976, pp. 21-23, 27-30; William Safire, "Frank & Jack & Sam & Judy," *New York Times*, June 13th, 1977; and James T. Houston, "Sinatra [:] the Hollywood Connection," *Hustler*, September, 1977, pp. 61-62, 105-106, 108, 110, 120. See also *Coincidence*, pp. 340-342 (and citations). Giancana at 67 and gall bladder operation, in Ashman, pp. 65 and 67. Under F.B.I. surveillance, in *Coincidence*, p. 328. See also *Washington Star*, December 29th, 1975. Tom Curtis, *Washington Post*, cited, police response to Giancana's "murder," and "lone assassin," in letter from Mark Lane to Senator Frank Church, June 21st, 1975 (distributed by Lane in June, 1975, as part of a press announcement in Washington). Giancana's daughter, in Brashler, p. 324.

19, p.252

Masferrer, in Canfield, pp. 136 and 161; in Weisberg, Oswald, pp. 362-363; and in Wise and Ross, pp. 45-57.

20, p.252

Oswald-Bringuier, in Meagher, p. 384. Oswald activities as media events, and Bringuier, see Scott, *Crime*, pp. 13-14 (and citations).

21, 22, pp.252-253

Senator Thomas Dodd, in I.F. Stone, *The Haunted Fifties* (New York: Random House, 1963), p. 348; see also "Senate Internal Security Subcommittee" references in index, p. 391; hereafter

cited as Stone. See also Scott, *Crime*, p. 8, and *I. F. Stone's Weekly*, "How Eastland and Dodd Help Anti-American Propaganda in Castro's Cuba," February 8th, 1960: the Internal Security Subcommittee heard testimony from Sturgis's associate, Pedro Diaz Lanz, and from General Charles P. Cabell. See also on Dodd, *I. F. Stone's Weekly*, June 27th, 1960 (the Internal Security Subcommittee hearings on Castro), and April 24th, 1961 (Dodd, Subcommittee and right-wing Cuban exile responses to the Bay of Pigs). Dodd on gun control, *Washington Post*, November 26th, 1963, in 24 H (CE 2180) 852. Dodd made an interesting error - if it *was* an error: the Connecticut Senator stated that Oswald acquired the alleged assassination rifle for \$12.78 - but \$12.78 was the price of a 40-inch *Carcano*, minus scope, in November. Oswald allegedly purchased a Carcano (40.2 inches) for \$19.95, with scope, months earlier. And it is an "error" that recurs persistently: George O'Toole, in discussing the possibility that Oswald sold the rifle to Buell Wesley Frazier the morning of the assassination (as part of a police-intelligence assassination plot), also stated that Oswald bought the rifle for \$12.78 (O'Toole, p. 204). For another "\$12.78," see 24 H (CE 2145) 761. Dodd, the Internal Security Subcommittee and FPCC, in *Hartford Times*, November 23rd, 1963. F.B.I. report and Un-American Activities Committee cited in *Hartford Times*, November 23rd, 1963. FPCC subject of inquiries, in *Hartford Times*, November 23rd, 1963. See also 26 H (CE 3081-3085) 689-693. Congressional interest in Carcano, in Bloomgarden, pp. 66-67. Anthony V. Bouza, *Police Intelligence* (New York: AMS Press, Inc., 1976), pointed out the Fair Play for Cuba Committee's "association" with Oswald's name resulted in the group expiring "as its members scattered" (p. 149). For other FPCC citations, see Meagher, *Subject Index*, p. 29.

## NOTES

### CHAPTER 20

2, p.255

Branch and Crile, August, 1975, pp. 50-62.

3, 4, p.256

Kennedy disinclined to eliminate Castro, see summary in Anson, pp. 260-270 (*and citations*). See also Kohn, "Bedfellows," note 18, p. 47. Lansdale as a typical promoter of the theory that because "Kennedy provoked it," "Castro did it": see Branch and Crile, August, 1975, pp. 50, 52, 60, 61. Just as Harvey associated with Syndicate figures in the performance of his Agency duties, so Lansdale reputedly consorted with Corsican "Mafia" figures during his Vietnam tour of duty (see *Coincidence*, p. 187). Scott, *Crime*, called attention to the Lansky-Trafficante/French-Corsican "Mafia" casino people in Havana (p. 19 and note 60, p. 57). Lansdale apparently told Crile and Branch he "chaired" a meeting (probably of the "Augmented" group: SGA) when an "assassination proposal" was put forward. The two authors offered this revelation breathlessly as part of their proof for "high-level discussions" of assassination plots against Castro (Crile and Branch, August, 1975, p. 61). Of course an "assassination proposal" was made when Lansdale was present: he proposed it. See his January, 1962, proposal (AR 143), his memorandum (with William Harvey) dated January 24th, 1962 (AR 143), his February 20th, 1962, proposal (AR 143), and his testimony to the Church Committee: "Lansdale conceded his proposal...contemplated the targeted killing of individuals...." (AR 144) Lansdale's *thirty-three* proposals were rejected by the SGA (including Robert Kennedy); and Lansdale was directed to "conduct an intelligence collection plan only." (AR 144; *italics added*) Nelson Rockefeller suggested the retaliation scenario on NBC's "Meet the Press," June 15th, 1975, in Ashman, pp.36-37.

5, p.256

Harvey as assassination coordinator:

Sometime in early 1961, Bissell instructed Harvey...to establish an "Executive Action capability," which would include research into capability to assassinate foreign leaders. (AR 181)

For February, 1961, see Ashman, pp. 102-103. Harvey's career, see *Washington Post*, October 10th, 1976, and *New York Times*, June 14th, 1976; see also *Coincidence*, pp. 162-171. The establishment of an "Executive Action" assassination capability with William K. Harvey in command in "early" 1961 (AR 181) and the several reported meetings between Harvey and reputed Syndicate figures in February and March, 1961, should be seen as parallel to (if not a part of) the planning for the Bay of Pigs operation in early 1961, culminating in the April 17th, 1961, invasion itself.

6, pp.256-257

Harvey's assignment, March, 1961, in Volkman, February, 1977, p. 58; see also AR 181. Harvey's testimony on Helms and McCone, in AR 102 and 134. Lansdale and Harvey, in AR 143; see also *Coincidence*, pp. 187-188. Shimon testimony, in AR 81-82; see also, Volkman, February, 1977, where Shimon is probably represented as a "participant in the [March, 1961] meeting." (p. 58) Harvey's "worry," in AR 102.

7, p.257

"Operation Mongoose," in SR 9-11 and 99; in AR 143-145; and in *Washington Post*, October 10th, 1976, Volkman, February, 1977, pp. 59-60, and *Coincidence*, pp. 187-189 (see citations).

8, p.257

Perjorative terms applied to Harvey, including Dulles' criticism, in *Coincidence*, p. 189.

9, p.258

Harvey as "bitter antagonist," in *Coincidence*, pp. 189-192 (see citations), Thomas, September, 1977, pp. 82 and 84. For ZRRIFLE, QJWIN, and WIROGUE, see *Coincidence*, pp. 201-212 (see citations). In a letter to me dated April 13th, 1976, independent investigator Amos E. Heacock linked William Harvey (1) to "William S. Wood" who was, according to Heacock, involved in the Kennedy assassination, (2) to William ("Bill") Boxley, who was an alleged former C.I.A. operative and investigator for Jim Garrison during his Kennedy probe, and (3) to "W.J. Wood," who was at the scene of the Robert Kennedy assassination and gave information to investigators tending to implicate Sirhan in a conspiracy. Heacock attached letters he had sent to Senators Ribicoff and Church, associating Harvey with certain Syndicate and Watergate figures, but Heacock's long and provocative analysis of the assassination story appended to those letters unfortunately lacks documentation.

10, p.258

Harvey at party, in Thomas, September, 1977, O. 84.

11, p.258

Harvey and end of assassination tries, in AR 84-85 and 104-105. Harvey and Roselli, in AR 104.

12, p.258

Harvey's retirement and death, in *New York Times*, June 14th, 1976.

14, p.259

Roselli's name changes, in *New York Times*, February 25th, 1977.

15, 16, p.259

Roselli background, Chicago Syndicate, and Hollywood, in Davenport, et al., p. 48; *New York Times*, February 25th, 1977; Reid, pp. 294-295; Messick, *Business*, pp. 75, 81-85, 112-119, 124-126, and 247-249; Reid and Demaris, pp. 224 and 227; Messick, *Mobs*, p. 161; and AR 132-133. See also, *Coincidence*, index, pp. 590-591.

17, p.260

Roselli, Las Vegas, Siegel, Lansky, Dalitz, West Coast, in *New York Times*, February 25th, 1977.

18, 19, p.260

Roselli and Friar's Club, in Reid, p. 183; indictment, p. 184; in District Court, p. 185; Roselli and Washington friends, p. 185; deportation, etc., p. 185. See also Ashman, p. 111.

20, 21, pp.260-261

Friar's Club story, in Reid, pp. 183 and 185-186.

22, p.261

Roselli and Frontier Hotel; and Roselli and Hughes, in *New York Times*, February 25th, 1977. Roselli and Edwards; and Roselli and Harvey, in AR 85.

23, p.261

Roselli, Frontier Hotel, and indictments, in *New York Times*, February 25th, 1977. C.I.A. interest in Roselli, 1971, in AR 85.

24, p.262

Roselli as informer, in *New York Times*, February 25th, 1977.

25, p.262

Roselli, Joseph Breen, and Harvey, in *New York Times*, February 25th, 1977. Harvey's widow, in *Washington Post*, October 10th, 1976.

26-28, pp.262-263

Roselli's death as recounted by F.B.I. informants, in *New York Times*, February 25th, 1977.

29, 30, p.263

Garrison case, Grant B. Cooper, Friar's Club case. Sirhan Sirhan trial, in *New York Times*, January 11th, 1969.

31, p.264

Siegel, Lansky, etc., in Hammer, pp. 220-224; in Messick, *Business*, pp. 126-148.

32-35, p.264

California Syndicate/Sirhan connection:

1. Siegel, Dragna, Cohen, Dioguardi, Fratianno, etc., in Reid, pp. 166-169, 171-174, 177-179, 180-181, 184, 187-190, 204, 216, 218, 220-221, 282-283, 285-286, 289, 291, 293, 295-296.

2. Sirhan, Parsons, Sica, R.F.K., Cohen, Fratianno, in Noyes, pp. 238-239.

See also Bompensiero, in Chapter 21, and citations.

See Roselli, Giancana, Hoffa, Justice Department, etc., in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 19, 22-24, 26-27, 29-30 (and citations), and *Coincidence*, pp. 168-171, 209-212, and 343-348.



## NOTES

### CHAPTER 21

1, p.267

Bosch and Letelier, in *New York Times*, November 15th, 1976; *Earth News*, December 21st, 1976; L.A. Times Service story, in *Hartford Courant*, December 20th, 1976; Blake Fleetwood, "I am going to declare war," *New Times*, May 13th, 1977, pp. 45-48 and 51-53. See also Howard Kohn, "Execution for the Witnesses," *Rolling Stone*, June 2nd, 1977. Bosch, Coru, and Condor, in *Newsweek*, November 1st, 1976, pp. 53-54. Bosch's alleged aerial assassination attempt, in UPI release, *Hartford Times*, November 23rd, 1964. Bosch, MIRR, Gil, INCA, and Masferrer, in Weisberg, Oswald, pp. 362-363; see also Scott, *Crime*, p. 15 and p. 55, note 35 and p. 56, note 52a. See Mike Dorland, "CIA Fights Bomb Probe," *National Examiner*, May 17th, 1977, for links between the C.I.A., the Chilean DINA (the "junta's secret police"), Cuban exile organizations, and Bosch's associate Luis Posada Carriles (Veciana's co-plotter in several anti-Castro assassination attempts). According to Dorland, the C.I.A. was aware of relationships between Bosch's groups and the DINA as early as 1974, but was covering up both the Agency's interest in the Letelier case and its knowledge of DINA involvement. Dorland also reported that the F.B.I. was investigating an Alpha 66 connection to the Letelier assassination, interrogating leaders of no fewer than ten exile organizations, "including two brothers...named by another Cuban exile awaiting trial for murder in Venezuela." The two brothers are Guillermo and Ignacio Novo, leaders of the New Jersey branch of Alpha 66 (see Fleetwood, *New Times*, May 13th, 1977, p. 537). See also Chapters 11 and 12, above, for Veciana-Carilles connections to Castro assassination plots and Cuban exile terrorism.

3, p.268

Rose Styron, in Jon Sandberg, "Journalist Tells of Death Squad," *Hartford Courant*, December 2nd, 1976.

4, p.268

Dr. Jose Szapocznic and Cuban-exile family research, in Knight News Wire story, *Hartford Courant*, December 16th, 1976.

6, p.269

For Artime's activities, see, for example, Scott, *Crime*, pp. 10-11, 16, 18, and 20; and Anson, pp. 256 and 287-288. For Bosch's "war," see *New Times*, October 29th, 1976, cited in Blake Fleetwood, *New Times*, May 13th, 1977: Bosch "led a group of Cuban exiles implicated in some 150 bombings and some 50 murders in the last two years." The American media have shown little interest in pursuing the Cuban-exile terrorist story, concentrating instead on the splashier but far less murderous "terrorist" activities of the SLA, for example.

7, p.269

The "Cuban Mafia," in Messick, *Mobs*, pp. 2, 4, 202-204; see also Kohn, *Rolling Stone*, June 2nd, 1977. Latin American dictators, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, and narcotics traffic, in Robert Singer, "The Rise of the Dope Dictators," *High Times*, March, 1977, pp. 52-58, 84-86, 88, 90, 108, 110, 112, 114.

9, 10, 11, p.270

Eastland committee hearings, Lyons-Diaz testimony, and Miami-area Cuban violence, in UPI release, *Hartford Courant*, August 23rd, 1976.

12, pp.270-271

Anti-Castro Cuban bombings and murders, in *New York Times*, May 31st, 1976, p. 20; see also Hernandez citation, below. Cuban fishing boats attacked, in "U.S. Says that Cuba Has Been Informed of Inquiry on Raids," *New York Times*, April 21st, 1976. Milian explosion and F.B.I. investigation, in "3 Seized in Miami as Bomb Suspects," *New York Times*, May 7th, 1977. Rolando Otero Hernandez arrested, in "Bombing Suspect Seized in Miami," *New York Times*, May 21st, 1976. Jesus Gonzales Cartas murder, in "Cuban's Death Seen Part of a Pattern," *New York Times*, May 31st, 1976.

13, p.271

Rolando Otero Hernandez testimony, in "Accused Cuban Bomber Says Hunt Trained Him," UPI release, *Hartford Courant*, August 24th, 1976.

14, p.271

Cubana Airlines explosion, in "Cuban Experts to Help Probe Airline Crash," UPI release, *Hartford Courant*, October 8th, 1976; "U.S. Ties Cuban Exiles to Jet Blasts," *New York Times*, October 17th, 1976; Associated Press wire story, November 4th, 1976. See also Bosch citations, above.

15, p.272

Pragmatistas, in "Six Cuban Refugees Held in a Slaying in Miami," *New York Times*, October 17th, 1976.

16, 17, p.272

Peruero murder, in "Cuban Exile Leader Slain in Miami; 7th in 3 Years," *New York Times*, January 8th, 1977.

18, pp.272-273

Pawley background, in *New York Times*, January 8th, 1977; in Canfield, p. 82.

19, p.273

Pawley background, above, and in Scott, *Crime*, note 25, p. 53, and note 63, p. 57.

20, 21, p.273

Pawley, in *New York Times*, January 8th, 1977.

22, p.274

Twenty-three murders, in Nicholas Gage, "Has the Mafia Penetrated the F.B.I.?" *The New York Times Magazine*, October 2nd, 1977. For .22 automatic pistol used in "at least 20 'executions'...in the past two years," see "New Mafia Killer: A Silenced .22," *Time*, April 18th, 1977, p. 22.

24, p.274

F.B.I. suspicions; two weapons traced; information for arriving at classifications of murder victims, in *Time*, April 18th, 1977, p. 22.

25, p.275

Bompensiero in Syndicate hierarchy, in Reid, p. 282; see also p. 187. Bompensiero background, in Reid, pp. 187-189 and 282; Fratianno, in Reid, pp. 187-189, and Noyes, pp. 50-55. Bompensiero as F.B.I. informer, in *Time*, April 18th, 1977, p. 22; Kohn, *Rolling Stone*, June 2nd, 1977; and Gage, *The New York Times Magazine*, October 2nd, 1977. F.B.I. investigation of Las Vegas Bureau office, in L.A. *Times* Service story, *Hartford Courant*, August 9th, 1977.

26, pp.275-276

Two informers on Roselli murder, in Nicholas Gage, "Roselli Called a Victim of Mafia Because of His Senate Testimony," *New York Times*, February 15th, 1977.

26, 27, pp.275-276

Bompensiero's murder, in *Time*, April 18th, 1977; Kohn, June 2nd, 1977; and Gage, October 2nd, 1977.

28, p.276

Trafficante's F.B.I. number, in Reid, p. 296. Trafficante before House Select Committee, in *New York Times*, March 17th, 1977; Knight News Service story, in *Hartford Courant*, March 17th, 1977; *Daily News*, March 17th, 1977; and Assassination Information Bureau, February/March, 1977.

29, p.276

Lansky, Dalitz, Batista, and Trafficante, Sr., in Anson, p. 238 and 307-308 (see citations). Lansky, Dalitz, and Trafficante in Havana, in Hammer, pp. 270-271. The Trafficantes, Batista, tourism, heroin, and Tampa, Florida, in *Coincidence*, pp. 316 and 318. Lansky and the Trafficantes, in *Coincidence*, p. 370.

30, pp.276-277

Trafficante and Lansky in Miami and Havana, in Anson, p. 308; Reid, pp. 90-93 and 296; *Coincidence*, p. 318. See also Scott, *Crime*, p. 57, note 69.

31, p.277

Rothman (a Trafficante associate), in Anson, pp. 298, 309, and 312; see also *Assassinations*, pp. 370-371. McWillie and Ruby at the Tropicana, in R 708; 5 H 201; 23 H (CE 1697) 170-171.

32, p.277

Trafficante's rise to power, in Reid, p. 296; Anson, pp. 307-312; Canfield, p. 169; and *Coincidence*, pp. 270-271 and 316-318. See also Kohn, "Bedfellows," May 20th, 1976: Kohn, in an otherwise good review of the "Hughes-Nixon-Lansky"/C.I.A. collusions and conspiracies, seems to confuse Trafficante Sr. with Trafficante Jr. :Because the elder Trafficante died in 1954, Kohn's discussion of the Lansky-Anastasia affair (1957), the Bay of Pigs, anti-Castro assassination plots, etc., should apply to the younger Trafficante alone; Kohn's note 9., p. 45, makes it seem as if the senior Trafficante were involved. Trafficante-Anastasia, in *Coincidence*, pp. 320-321. The Lansky-Tourine-Trafficante oath story, in Messick, *Lansky*, p. 210. Profaci-Lansky-Trafficante, in Hammer, p. 271; Reid, p. 296.

33, p.277

Lansky-Prio relationship, in Messick, *Silent*, p. 272; Messick, *Lansky*, p. 175; see also Kefauver hearings, cited in Canfield, note 46, p. 305.

34, p.278

Trafficante, Savaarda, and Hall ejected, in *New York Times*, July 9th, 1959. McWillie's move to the Capri, in Canfield, p. 169. Loran Eugene Hall, in Anson, pp. 197-198 (see citations) and Canfield, pp. 135-137, for example. See also *Coincidence*, p. 389 (see citations).

35, 36, 37, pp.278-280

Loran Eugene Hall interview and story, in Dick Russell, "Loran Hall and the Politics of Assassination," *Village Voice*, October 3rd, 1977, pp. 23 and 25.

36, pp.278-279

Hall, in above. Pawley, Bayo, and Martino, in Robert K. Brown, "The Bayo-Pawley Affair," *Soldier of Fortune*, pp. 18 and 21. The Bayo-Martino story re-told in Russell, above.

37, pp.279-280

Martino and Weyl, in Canfield, pp. 135-150; see also pp. 105-106, 117, and 134. See also *Coincidence*, pp. 506-507 (and citations), and *Assassinations*, 360-361 (and citations). Martin,

Martino, etc., in *Coincidence*, pp. 125-137 and p. 105. The names Juan Martin, John Martino, Edward J. Martin (=James McCord), Jack Martin, Eugenio Martinez, and Lewis Joseph Martin (= Lewis J. McWillie, *Coincidence*, p. 293) recur sometimes confusingly in assassination writings.

38, p.280

Hall before the Committee on June 7th, 1977, in Wendell Rawls, Jr., "Ex-Castro Soldier Balks at House Inquiry on Kennedy," *New York Times*, June 8th, 1977. Hall has often been given credit for fighting for Fidel Castro (see for example, *New York Times*, June 8th, 1977: "self-styled soldier of fortune who fought for Fidel Castro in Cuba before turning against him in 1959..."), at least one source dating that Hall-Castro association as early as 1958 (Canfield, p. 135). Several sources reported that Hall was arrested by Castro in April, 1959, for Hall's part in a plot to overthrow the government of Nicaragua (see, for example, *New York Times*, July 1st, 1959). But in the *Village Voice*, Russell reported that Hall came to Havana in 1959 and worked for Trafficante at the Capri casino (where he would have been in touch with Frank Sturgis, then collecting casino table taxes for Castro, according to his statements to us on November 22nd, 1976). In April, 1959, Hall was jailed with Trafficante, Savaarda, and Trafficante's "son-in-law," according to Hall (*Village Voice*, October 3rd, 1977). Hall should be asked about these contradictions in his stories, because the latest version of his Cuban stay places him in Trafficante's sphere of influence from the moment he arrives in Havana in 1959, and Hall has admitted to at least one meeting with Trafficante as late as 1963 (*Village Voice*, October 3rd, 1977). Hall also admitted working with John Martino in an alleged plot to murder Castro in 1963. Martino had been an associate of Captain William Morgan, who reportedly supported Castro from 1957 through 1959 (Canfield, p. 106). Morgan and Major Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo, the commander of Castro's Las Villas Province troops, worked together as double agents, allegedly entrapping Batista-Trujillo supporters. But in 1960, Morgan was accused of secretly aiding anti-Castro rebels in the Escambray Mountains and was executed (Canfield, p. 106). Menoyo became an exile, and eventually was a leader of SNFE/Alpha 66 (Canfield, p. 117). Morgan and Menoyo may both have been part of the AMBLOOD/Veciana coup attempts. Morgan, Sturgis, and Alexander Rorke have been implicated in a Nicaraguan plot similar (if not identical) to the Loran Eugene Hall action; since AMBLOOD, the Veciana group, and the Sturgis-Rorke combination were all supported by American intelligence (Canfield, p. 134), it is possible that Hall was involved in an Agency-backed plan to discredit Castro as an "exporter" of revolution.

38, p.280

Hall's October 5th, 1977, appearance before the House Select Committee was reported as "Ex-Castro Aide Talks on JFK," AP release, *Hartford Courant*, October 6th, 1977, with no mention of his Trafficante associations.

39, 40, pp.280-281

The Lanksy/Trafficante and Groves/Levinson/Jones split, in Reid, p. 129; Giancana, in Reid, p. 129.

41, p.281

Trafficante's former employees remain behind, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 19-20 (see citations).

McLaney, in *Assassinations*, pp. 371 and 398; Canfield, pp. 101-102, 143, 175; *Coincidence*, pp. 366-367; Oglesby, p. 126; Scott, *Crime*, pp. 17-18, 43, and 46. See also Messick, *Lansky*, pp. 242-243 and 246-247.

42, pp.281-282

Sturgis's Ruby-Castro story, in UPI release, *Hartford Times*, July 9th, 1976. For the C.I.A.-generated rumor that Trafficante sold out the anti-Castro C.I.A.-Syndicate plot to assassinate Castro, see Crile, *Washington Post*, May 16th, 1976 (statements made to Church Intelligence Committee staff). If the Trafficante double-agent story has been recounted in good faith, it may be based ultimately on an earlier Lansky-Trafficante arrangement in which Trafficante pretended friendship (on Lansky's orders) with Albert Anastasia in Anastasia's anti-Lansky campaign. Anastasia's plan included eliminating Lansky from the Syndicate's Havana casino operations and supporting Trafficante as the new boss of Cuban gambling; Trafficante was, of course, on "good terms" with dictator Fulgencio Batista (Messick, *Lansky*, pp. 209-210).

42, pp.282

Narcotics traffic from Cuba, 1961-1962, in Reid, p. 125. Trafficante and narcotics traffic, in Scott, *Crime*, p. 21 and note 69, p. 57; Anson, pp. 307-308; and *New York Daily News*, March 17th, 1977.

43, 44, 46, 47, pp.282-283

Trafficante before the House Select Committee, in *New York Times*, March 17th, 1977; Knight News Service story, *Hartford Courant*, March 17th, 1977; and *New York Daily News*, March 17th, 1977.

45, p.283

Sturgis interview at the University of Hartford, November 22nd, 1976.

49, 50, 51, 51, 53, pp.283-285

The "Caribbean Complex" has not gotten attention from professional historians. See, however, Reid, pp. 103-121; Salerno, pp. 310 and 386-387; Messick, *Lansky*, pp. 230-237 and 244-249; Messick, *Mobs*, pp. 189-195; Kohn "Bedfellows," May 20th, 1976, pp. 50, 77, 78, 80, 83, 90, and 92. See especially Scott, *Crime*, "CIA-Mafia Collaboration in the Caribbean," pp. 16-19 (and citations), and below.

49, pp.283-284

Trujillo-Somoza lobby, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 9-12, 15-18, 20, 28, 34, and 38, and notes 12, 13, and 14, pp. 51-52, and note 21, p. 52. See also *Assassinations*, p. 403. Bobby Baker, in Oglesby, pp. 73 and 116; Anson, p. 324; Reid, pp. 122, 127, 129-142, 190, 194, 235, and 277; and Scott, *Crime*, pp. 9, 11, 25-26, and 34-35 (and citations). Teamsters, in Anson, pp. 226-227, 234, 314-315, 317-321, 323-325 (and citations); Oglesby, p. 73; *Assassinations*, pp. 358; Reid, throughout: see Index, "Hoffa, James," p. 336; Scott, *Crime*, pp. 3, 9, 11-12, 21-22, 27-30, 34, 38 and 42-43 (and citations). Davidson, in Reid, p. 139; in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 9, 11-12, 26-28, 34, and 38 (and citations). Murchisons, in Reid, p. 138; Oglesby, p. 116; and Scott, *Crime*, pp. 11-12, 35, 38, and 45 (and citations).

50, p.284

Lansky and Trafficante in Caribbean, see above. C.I.A. in Caribbean, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 16-19 (and citations). Series of coups, in Scott, *Crime*, p. 16 (see citations).

51, p.284

Artime, in AR 89-90; Anson, pp. 256 and 287-288; Canfield, pp. 74, 76, 78, 80, and 98; Assassinations, pp. 402-403; Mankiewicz, pp. 124 and 126; and Scott, *Crime*, pp. 10-11, 16, 18, and 20 (and citations). See also Wise, pp. 26-27 and 41. Rolando Cubela Secades/AMLASH, in *Coincidence*, pp. 514-516, (and citations); and in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 3, 10, 11, 16-21 (and citations). Aleman, in *Coincidence*, pp. 321-322 (and citations); and Scott, *Crime*, pp. 17-21 (and citations). Bringuier, in *Coincidence*, pp. 366-367; Assassinations, pp. 371 and 398; Canfield, pp. 101-102, 143, 175; and Scott, *Crime*, 17, 18, 43, and 46 (and citations). Somoza family involvement in Caribbean Complex, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 9-12, 15-18, 20, 28, 34, and 38 (and citations). "Cuba Lobby," in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 8 and 12.

52, pp.284-285

Marcello, in *Coincidence*, pp. 306-315 (and citations); Anson, pp. 125-127; 310-312, and 328-329 (and citations); and Reid, pp. 147-159. Marcello, Trafficante, and Teamsters, Scott, *Crime*, pp. 21, 22, 27, 28, 42, 43, 46 (and citations).

53, p.385

Nicaraguan secret police, the Somozas and Artime, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 10, 11, and 20 (and citations). False Oswald stories, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 2, 11, 15, and 20 (and citations). Phillips's "D" story, in Phillips, pp. 141-142. Somoza, in Jack Anderson and Les Whitten, "Nicaraguan Amin," in *Hartford Courant*, September 28th, 1977.

54, pp.285-286

Phillips and Anderson, in Phillips, p. 284.

55, p.286

"D"/Alvarado's Oswald story, SR 28-29. Syndicate and Lake Pontchartrain, SR 79; Pontchartrain and Bringuier, SR 12; "A," AMLASH, and American intelligence, SR 12 and 78. The AMLASH attempt leading to a Castro retaliation and/or Oswald acting as the lone assassin, in Daniel Schorr, "The Assassins," *New York Review of Books*, October 13th, 1977, pp. 14-22. The Schorr article has excellent primary-source documentation, but is badly faulted in its ignorance of the physical evidence. If the physical evidence makes it impossible for Oswald to have been one of the assassins (see Introduction and Chapters 1 through 5, above), then it is bizarre to take comfort in the possibility that "Oswald acted on his own...." (Schorr, p. 22)

56, pp.286-287

Lake Pontchartrain, the MDC, and Bringuier, in Scott, *Crime*, p. 16. Oswald and Bringuier, SR 12; CD 984B. 19-28, cited in Scott, *Crime*, p. 16. The de la Barre family and Laureano Batista, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 16-17 (and citations). See also Weisberg, Oswald, pp. 150-156. Valladares, in Scott, *Crime*, p. 16 (and citations). "A" and munitions, in Anson, p. 250; AR 78; Scott, *Crime*, p. 17. F.B.I. raid, in *Washington Post*, August 1st, 1963. Sam Benton, McLaney, securities, in Scott, *Crime*, p. 17. William McLaney, in Anson, p. 250. McWillie, McLaney, and the Tropicana, in *Coincidence*, p. 366. Amores and Lauchli, in Leek, p. 169. Ponchartrain, McLaney, and the C.I.A. in Weisberg, Oswald, pp. 67-69.

57, pp.287-288

Benton and Anson group attorney, in Scott, *Crime*, p. 17. Anson members, in *Assassinations*, pp. 372-373; Scott, *Crime*, pp. 17-18 (and citations). Aleman and AMLASH, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 17-21. Aleman and the F.B.I., in *Coincidence*, p. 323. Aleman and Trafficante, in *Coincidence*, pp. 321-323 (and citations), see also Scott, *Crime*, pp. 19-21.

58, 59, p.288

Summaries of above.

60, p.289

Artime, in *Assassinations*, pp. 374 and 402-403; Prio, pp. 371, 373, and 405-406. Artime and Prio, in Canfield, p. 74. Relations between Prio and Artime, Ansan group, Victor Panque Batista, and Sturgis, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 17 and 18. Ruby and Prio, in 26 H (CE 3063) 634-638, for example. Pecora, Smith, and Medlevine, in Scott, *Crime*, p. 46 (and citations). Benton, McLaney, Marcello, and Tourine, in Scott, *Crime*, p. 46 (and citations).

62, 63, 64, pp.289-290

For "A," Aleman, and unnamed exile leader, see above.

64, p.290

Trafficante and logistical support: conclusion drawn in *Coincidence*, p. 318. Roselli, Support Chief, Trafficante, and the Cuban-exile leader, in AR 80-81.

65, pp.290-291

Overlooked *Schweiker Report* passage, in SR 10; footnote, in SR 10.

67ff., p.291ff.

The following materials on George de Mohrenschildt and the White Russian community appeared in a condensed version as a serialized article in George Michael Evica, *Assassination Journal*, "The White Baron," Parts I, II, III, IV, April 13th, 1977, April 20th, 1977, April 27th, 1977, and May 4th, 1977, *The Informer* (University of Hartford campus newspaper). The Dallas-Fort Worth Russian community called de Mohrenschildt "The White Baron" (9 H 173).



68, p.292

The Baron's family origins and father's background, in 8 H 456 and 9 H 15.

69, p.292

The Baron's Polish, French, Belgian, and Texan experiences, in 9 H 172, 175-176, and 190.

70, p.292

The Baron in petrochemicals, in 9 H 191. The Baron, Maydell, and the alleged film, in 9 H 182. See Scott, *Crime*, note 141, p. 66. See also summary in Mark Lane, "The Mysterious Death of a Key JFK Witness," *Gallery*, November, 1977, p. 42, hereafter cited as Lane, "Witness," November, 1977. Gehlen-Vlassov spy operation, in Oglesby, 39-44. Gehlen's translator spells it "Vlasov." For Abwehr, see Gehlen, pp. 22-44 and 94-97; for Vlasov, see pp. 83-92; 101-102 (Vlasov helped Gehlen's family escape from the eastern front); and p. 303; Gehlen on Executive Action, pp. 97-99; Gehlen and the C.I.A., pp. 141-143, 195-217 (including relations with Allen Dulles, O.S.S. European section, Switzerland); collaboration with the F.B.I., p. 225; commentary on the U-2/Gary Powers incident, p. 235; Bay of Pigs and Cuban-South American activities, pp. 236-238; Gehlen agents in Cuba as of October, 1962, p. 257. Given de Mohrenschildt's French intelligence connections, Gehlen's admission that, as of January 22, 1963, the German and French intelligence organizations effected a full intelligence interchange (Gehlen having established interchange with American intelligence from 1945 on) suggests the Baron could have been compromised redundantly by the C.I.A. either directly or through both French and German intelligence. See Gehlen, p. 258.

71, p.293

The Baron and French intelligence, in 9 H 183-184. Just as Maydell had important connections to Abwehr II, so also Pierre Faiss was the chief of French intelligence in America during the war. The Baron combined domestic spying and petrochemical intelligence-gathering while working with the Information and Economics Department of the American-based French Intelligence organization headed by Faiss. Polish residents in the States were used to collect the petrochemical information. See Lane, "Witness," November, 1977, p. 42. The House Select Committee on Assassinations ought to be interested in the strong possibility that de Mohrenschildt was a covert, pro-Nazi collaborator in the Faiss French-intelligence operation; the Faiss organization itself may have been compromised by Nazi sympathizers or Vichy French. According to a recently-released F.B.I. report (cited in Lane, "Witness," November, 1977), de Mohrenschildt behaved as if he were a Nazi, speaking, for example, of the "excellent treatment that the French had received" from the Nazi occupation forces during the war (p. 42). This long association with collaborating and double-agenting organizations could have made the Baron vulnerable to sinister manipulation in 1963. The Baron, suspected spying, and the F.B.I., in 9 H 178 and 185. See also Anson, p. 178, and citations). See Lane, "Witness," November, 1977, for summary of de Mohrenschildt's relationship in 1941 to Patricia Devel, whose associate Grace Dineen admitted being a Nazi agent during the war and was convicted of "conspiracy to commit espionage" (p. 42). The de Mohrenschildt/Rockefeller connection, in CD 533, cited in Canfield, pp. 29 and 269. Rockefeller, Standard Oil, Socony Mobil, cartel arrangements, and Truman Committee; and Subic Bay, in Barnett, pp. 235-236, 238, 244; and 77-78.

72, p.293

The Baron and his Mexican connections, in Mike Shuster "George de Mohrenschildt," *Seven Days*, May 9th, 1977, p. 9, hereafter cited as Shuster, May 9th, 1977. The de Mohrenschildt walking trip and the Bay of Pigs, in R 262 and 9 H 213-215. Warren Commission counsel did not find this story too strange: the de Mohrenschildts walking through jungles, feeling the need to carry loaded pistols, happening to come upon the Bay of Pigs staging, on a commission from Texas Eastern Corporation to secure a contract for natural gas - and in the process making a film in which Mrs. de Mohrenschildt's costumes allegedly recalled those of Tarzan's "Jane." See 9 H 213-215.

73, p.293

The Baron's wife, Jeanne, in Canfield, p. 28. The Baron, Yugoslavia, and J. Walton Moore, in 9 H 202-204, 235, and 270.

74, p.294

The Baron and Brown and Root, in Shuster, May 9th, 1977, p. 9. See also Lane, "Witness," November, 1977, pp. 43 and 106.

77, p.294

Peter Dale Scott on de Mohrenschildt, in *Crime*, pp. 34-36. For summary of evidence on de Mohrenschildt as a C.I.A. employee, see Lane, "Witness," November, 1977, 41-43 and 106-107, 110, 112, and 114. See also Canfield, pp. 27-33, including parallels to and possible links with E. Howard Hunt. Both Lane and Canfield supply enough evidence and argument to support the charges that (1) de Mohrenschildt was an agent for several intelligence organizations, including the C.I.A.; (2) de Mohrenschildt committed perjury in his Warren Commission testimony; (3) de Mohrenschildt was involved in the Kennedy assassination, though possibly unwittingly.

78, p.295

The Baron's connections to the Lake Pontchartrain group and the Caribbean complex, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 34-36 (and citations). See also Shuster's summary, May 9th, 1977, p. 9. The Baron's statement on Cuba, cited in Malcom Abrams, "The Third Man," *Midnight*, April 26th, 1977, pp. 26-27.

80, pp.295-296

For Baker, Davidson, Murchisons, Teamsters, and Syndicate (as well as American intelligence) interests in the Caribbean and the Bahamas, see earlier citations for paragraphs 49-53.

80, p.296

George de Mohrenschildt, de Manil, and Haiti, in 19 H (de Mohrenschildt Exhibits 1-16) 544-560; see also 9 H 16 and 167. The Baron numbered William R. Grace of Grace Lines among

his influential friends (Canfield, p. 30); J. Peter Grace, chairperson of W.R. Grace and Co. (with large holdings in South America), was also chairperson of the Board of the American Institute for Free Labor Development - AIFLD - (Agee, p. 610), now known to have cooperated with the C.I.A. in Latin America through ICA and AID (Agee, pp. 63-64 and 244-246); E. Howard Hunt worked for a subsidiary of AID, the ECA (Canfield, p. 30: see citation); and de Mohrenschildt went to Yugoslavia as a representative of ICA, a subsidiary of AID (9 H 212; see also CD 535, available in the National Archives, cited in Canfield, pp. 28-29 and 270). Just as the Grace family had alleged interests in exploiting Latin America and had reputed intelligence ties, so also did George de Mohrenschildt and his circle have such interests and ties. Schlumberger Wells of Houston, in Garrison, pp. 111-112, and Canfield, p. 31. Schlumberger was a French corporation with offices in Houston which received munitions from a States-side source and stored them in an old dirigible base in Louisiana; David Ferrie, Gordon Novel, Sergio Arcacha Smith, and others "raided" the munitions cache and brought shells, grenades, and other ammunition to Guy Banister's office at 544 Camp Street New Orleans, where they were stored before being shipped to Florida for use by anti-Castro Cuban exiles. For Novel and Schlumberger, see *Assassinations*, pp. 284-285, Anson, p. 109 (and citations); and *Coincidence*, pp. 454-459 and 522-523. For Sergio Arcacha Smith, see *Coincidence*, pp. 495-498. For David Ferrie, see *Coincidence*, pp. 295-305 and 496-497. For earliest and still highly relevant connections between the Ferrie-Novel-Smith group, Cuban exile activities, the C.I.A., and Oswald, see Weisberg, *Oswald*, pp. 51, 60, 304, 317, 319-321, 328-337, 346-347, 355-356, 361-362, 365, and 399 ff. (Novel and the munitions theft).

81, p.296

Paul Raigorodsky's testimony, in 9 H 1-27; see especially 9 H 3 and 5. See also 8 H 358 and 451. Tolstoy Foundation, in 9 H 5; see also Anson, p. 177, and Model, p. 201. Baird Foundation and Baird-Henry Crown and Baird-Sam Benton Lake Pontchartrain connections) in Scott, *Crime*, note 142, p. 66. Baird and Catherwood foundations, in Shuster, May 9th, 1977.

82, p.296

George Bouhe's testimony, in 8 H 355-378; see also extensive reference to Bouhe in the testimony of others: 15 H 756, "Bouhe, George...." For the importance of DeGolyer and MacNaughton to the petrochemical intelligence field, see "Unlocking Oil Secrets is a Booming Business for Dallas Consultants," *The Wall Street Journal*, June 13th, 1977, where the firm was identified as the best-known among hundreds of "oil and gas estimators in the U.S.," performing "upwards of 300 sophisticated assignments" a year both in and outside of the United States. Raigorodsky also worked under DeGolyer "to organize the Department of Natural Gas and Natural Gasoline Industries for the United States" (9 H 3); Raigorodsky held an important position on the "Defense Board" which became the War Production Board; in 1952, he became SRE-NATO Deputy Director of Production (9 H 3). The Bouhe-De Golyer-Raigorodsky relationship, combining government work and petrochemical intelligence and information, is illustrative of the whole White Russian community of Dallas-Forth Worth. See Model, p. 201, for typical commentary on the success of the Russian emigre' community.

83, p.297

The Baron's assignments, in 8 H 457; possible American Foreign Aid assistance, in 8 H 458.

84, 85, p.297

The Baron's travels, in 8 H 432, 442, 443, 456, 460-461 and 439 (including the "unsavory character"). See also Canfield, pp. 29-31 (and citations), and Scott, *Crime*, pp. 34-35 (and citations).

86, pp.297-298

Voshinin testimony, in 8 H 470 and 8 H 469.

87, p.298

The Houston connection: see, for example, Raigorodsky's testimony on (1) John de Menil of Schlumberger and (2) George and Herman Brown of Brown and Root, both companies located in Houston (9 H 16-17); see also Lane, "Witness," November, 1977, on the possible involvement of the Browns in the interrogation of Marguerite Oswald, pp. 43 and 106. The Houston-Haitian operation which de Mohrenschildt was organizing as part of the larger pattern of exploitation being carried on by the Caribbean Complex seems to have had C.I.A. input as well, according to Mark Lane ("Witness," November, 1977); Lane asserts that de Mohrenschildt's Haitian Holding Company was a "shell" structure serving as an Agency "farm" to "hold" or reward C.I.A. agents with dangerous knowledge (p. 106).

88, 89, 90, 91, pp.299-300

For an early analysis suggestive of Oswald's involvement in intelligence work and its relation to a New Orleans plot, see Weisberg, *Oswald*, throughout; see also Garrison, throughout, for supplementary materials. For the possible roles of the White Russian Community, George de Mohrenschildt, and C.D. Jackson in the post-assassination story, see Scott, *Crime*, pp. 34-38 (and citations). See also Lane, "Witness," November, 1977, p. 114. For the Paines, see *Coincidence*, pp. 214-216.

88, 89, 90, 91, pp.299-300

C.D. Jackson as Luce's personal delegate to the C.I.A. (1960 to 1964), in Carl Bernstein, "The CIA and the Media," *Rolling Stone*, October 20th, 1977, p. 63. On Oswald's desire to get the family out of the United States and into the Soviet Union: Oswald applied for a passport in June, 1963 - see, for example, 23 H (CE 1969) 819. It is difficult to find statements about the Oswalds' intention to leave the United States that are not heavily biased or slanted; see, however, Marina's statement recorded in 25 H (CE 2521) 730, in which Marina admitted she was also involved in the attempt to leave the country:

Concerning Lee Oswald's being in Mexico City and his visits to the Cuban and Russian Embassies, Marina Oswald stated that she had no prior knowledge of him going to Mexico City, but that due to their family difficulties *she on several occasions expressed her desire to return to Russia on which he agreed* and that he also expressed a desire to return to Russia to save their marriage and *on account of their children*. She also stated that in order to return to Russia she wrote to the Russian Embassy in Washington, D.C. (italics added)

The C.I.A.-Phillips statements on the Oswald-Soviet exchange, in Chapter 11, above. For Kostikov and Oswald, see Scott, *Crime*, p. 13 (and citations).

91, p.300

Press reports of de Mohrenschildt's death, UPI release, in *New York Times*, March 31st, 1977; from combined services, in *New York Post*, April 1st, 1977; from combined dispatches, in *New*

York Daily News, March 31st, 1977; UPI release, in *Hartford Courant*, April 2nd, 1977 (including Oltmans on Loran Eugene Hall); *New York Times*, April 2nd, 1977 (including Oltmans on Loran Eugene Hall); *New York Post*, March 31st, 1977 (including a "Ruby-Oswald" connection); Tim Wheeler, *Daily World*, March 31st, 1977. Later press accounts on de Mohrenschildt: *New York Post*, April 1st, 1977, heavily stressing the reputed Oltmans revelations; *Daily News*, April 2nd, 1977, also stressing reputed Oltmans revelations, as well as *Los Angeles Times*, April 2nd, 1977. Still later (and sober) review on de Mohrenschildt, Daniel St. Albin Greene, *National Observer*, April 9th, 1977. See Lane, "Witness," for refutation of Oltmans revelations, pp. 41, 106-107, 110, and 112; Lane maintains that the alleged Oltmans stories on de Mohrenschildt (and Hall) were media acts of deliberate distortion and disinformation.

92, p.301

Charles Crimaldi's story on Nicoletti, in Kohn, "Execution," *Rolling Stone*, June 2nd, 1977, hereafter cited as Kohn. Nicoletti, gambling, anti-Castro assassination attempt, in Kohn. Questions on Ruby, in Kohn.

93, 94, 95, pp.301-302

Ruby and three "mobsters," in Kohn. Ruby and McWillie in Las Vegas, in Kohn. Ruby's contacts in effort to reach William Miller through McWillie, in 23 H (CE 1544) 31; Miller established that McWillie had been at the Riverside in Reno but had moved to the Tropicana, Las Vegas. McWillie chronology can be established from his work record, in 23 H (CE 1692) 165 and 23 H (CE 1697) 170. Ruby in Las Vegas: one witness claimed seeing Ruby in Vegas; several, however, contradicted that single witness. See 23 H (CE 1600, 1601) 82-83. Hubert and Griffin memorandum to Members of the President's Commission, March 20th, 1964, available in the National Archives. F.B.I. report dated March 26th, 1964 (on McWillie), available in the National Archives; reproduced in Canfield, pp. 293-294; see also *Coincidence*, pp. 285-286, and Scott, *Crime*, p. 41, and notes 185 and 186, p. 71, for Giancana-Sinatra-McWillie story.

97, 98, p.303

Ruby witness on Ruby-Roselli meetings, in Kohn.

99, pp.303-304

Nicoletti and the Cuban exiles in the Syndicate, in Kohn. Nicoletti quoted in the *Washington Post*, cited in Kohn. Trafficante-Galente narcotics traffic, in *New York Daily News*, March 17th, 1977.

100, p.304

House Select Committee attempts to contact Nicoletti, in Kohn. Nicoletti's murder, in *New York Daily News*, March 31st, 1977 (in box next to a de Mohrenschildt story headlined "Hint JFK Witness Was in CIA"; Nicoletti's headline read: "Reputed Chi Mob Leader Found Fatally Shot in Car"). Nicoletti had been shot three times in the back of the head; his foot seems to have jammed the accelerator, and a fire allegedly resulted. Firemen pulled him out of the car, and he lived for eight hours before dying from the gunshots he sustained. It is not known whether Nicoletti was conscious for any part of those eight hours, and, if so, whether he spoke to anyone before he died. For Nicoletti's standing in the Chicago Syndicate, see Reid, p. 264, and *American*, pp. 249, 250, and 356, for example.

102, p.304

Hunt's recommendation, in E. Howard Hunt, *Give Us This Day* (New York: Popular Library, 1973), p. 38, hereafter cited as Hunt. Tracy Barnes's response, in Hunt, p. 38. Artime and AMLASH, in AR 89-90; see also Scott, *Crime*, pp. 10, 11, 16, 18, and 20 (and citations). Artime and 1965 attempt against Castro, in Anson, p. 256 (and citations). Hunt's extensive activities, in Szulc, throughout; see also *Coincidence*, index, "Hunt, E. Howard," p. 587.

103, p.305

Watergate preparations and break-in, in J. Anthony Lukas, *Nightmare* [:] *The Underside of the Nixon Years*, New York: The Viking Press, 1976, pp. 196-214, hereafter cited as Lukas. The Watergate burglars and the White House Plumbers are treated individually, below. Humberto Lopez named in one source, in *Coincidence*, p. 519. The many connections between the Kennedy assassination and the Watergate break-in, cover-up, and subsequent revelations are covered extensively and soberly in *Coincidence*, pp. 500-550 (see citations); see also *Assassinations*, "From Dallas to Watergate: the Politics of Assassination," pp. 353-446 (see citations), and Oglesby, "Watergate," pp. 171-302 (see citations).

104, p.305

"Ameritas" registration, in *Assassinations*, pp. 400-401.

105, p.305

Prio, Lansky, Batista, in Canfield, pp. 163-164. Prio as millionaire, with sugar and land holdings, in *Assassinations*, p. 405.

106, p.305

Prio, Sturgis, Castro, and Prio's gambling interests, in Canfield, pp. 163-164. Prio's ownership of casino (with Jack Ruby holding a share), in 26 H (CE 3063) 634; see also 635-638, and 26 H (CE 3063) 641 for Ruby's possible interest in the Colonial Inn, operated by Costello, Erickson, and Adonis of the Chicago Syndicate. The Warren Commission ignored all possible leads which linked (1) Prio and Ruby, (2) the Syndicate and Ruby, and (3) the Syndicate and Prio, though the Commission had evidence or testimony for all three relationships. 26 H (CE 3063) 634 also offered the Commission a Ruby-Prio/Cuban weapons-smuggling link which it ignored.

107, p.306

Ruby was named as involved in gun-smuggling to Cuba: 14 H 360-364. A "Jack Rubenstein" was named in two documents as a prospective munitions purchaser and arms representative dealing with firms in Italy and Scandinavia (Canfield, pp. 287-288). Ruby and Prio were linked in several sources to arms deals: see CD 360 and CD 365, available in the National Archives. For Ruby-McKeown contacts, see below. J. Edgar Hoover's letter to J. Lee Rankin, dated April 17th, 1964, cited in *Coincidence*, p. 512. Prio-Ruby casino connection, in 26 H (CE 3063) 634 (see also 635-638). Ruby's admission to F.B.I. on Houston call, in 23 H (CE 1688) 157. F.B.I. confirmation of McKeown conviction, in 23 H (CE 1688) 157 and 159: The Houston office of the Bureau checked Houston newspaper files for the McKeown information, and reported to the Dallas office on January 17th, 1964. The Dallas office made a second Houston newspaper check on January 24th, and interviewed McKeown on the same day. Castro's Houston visit, in 23 H (CE 3063) 158-159. McKeown-Ruby meeting and offer of \$25,000, in 23 H (CE 3063) 159-160.

109, p.307

Eisenhower's N.S.C. approval, in Canfield, pp. 73-74. Prio's involvement in recruitment: see, for example, Canfield, p. 74. E. Howard Hunt and the Cuban government-in-exile, in Canfield, p. 74. Hunt was the C.I.A.'s coordinator of the Bay of Pigs operation, holding the title of Chief of Political Action (*Coincidence*, pp. 160-161 and 509). Assisted by Bernard Barker (Prio's close associate), Hunt was acting in that capacity when he organized the Cuban Revolutionary Front with individuals associated with Prio. Richard Cain's early involvement in Bay of Pigs, in Model, p. 218, and in Kohn, "Bedfellows," May 20th, 1976, p. 45. Trafficante as Syndicate representative in the Bay of Pigs operation, in Kohn, p. 45. According to Kohn, Frank Sturgis was Trafficante's delegate in the Bay of Pigs planning (p. 45). See extended discussion of Sturgis's alleged Syndicate relations, below.

110, pp.307-308

Hunt; the Cuban Revolutionary Front's membership; Prio connections, in Canfield, p. 74.

111, p.308

DMC in Miami; Bringuier's DRE, in *Assassinations*, p. 371. For Miami-Cuban exile problems, see earlier; see also *Assassinations*, p. 371.

112, p.308

The "grey alliance," in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 16-23 and 34-38 (and citations).

113, pp.308-309

Keyes Realty; attempt to bribe sheriff, in *Assassinations*, p. 372. Key Biscayne, Keyes Realty, Ansan Corporation, and Ansan members, in *Assassinations*, pp. 372-373. Ansan-Lake Pontchartrain connections, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 16-18 (and citations). Ansan-Costello-Lansky connections, in Messick, *Secret*, p. 244. Ansan-Teamsters-Nixon/Rebozo connections, in *Assassinations*, pp. 372-373. Donald Berg, in *Assassinations*, p. 373.

114, p.309

Keyes, Martinez, Barker, and "Ameritas," in *Assassinations*, p. 373. Miguel Suarez, Barker, and Ameritas, in *Assassinations*, pp. 395 and 400. Suarez, Nixon, and Gurney, in *Assassinations*, pp. 395 and 400.

115, p.309

Alonso Pujol, his son, Restoy, and the shoot-out, in *Assassinations*, p. 395. Pujol and Restoy arrested in "Operation Eagle," in *New York Times*, June 22nd, 1970. Restoy, Cuban-Syndicate operation, and heroin-cocaine traffic, in Scott, *Crime*, note 66, p. 57. Restoy, Operation Forty, and Restoy's "execution," in Kohn, "Bedfellows," May 20th, 1976, p. 45. Restoy's lawyer, Suarez, in *Assassinations*, p. 395.

116, p.310

Barker and "narcotics intelligence," in *Assassinations*, p. 374. Hunt, Barker, and the CRC, in *Coincidence*, p. 512. For Hunt, the establishing of the CRC, and the support and direction of

the C.I.A., see Hunt, pp. 40-50 and 182-189, and Wise, pp. 20 and 27. Barker and the Syndicate in Miami, testimony of Richard Helms, in Hearings before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, 1973, p. 25, cited in *Coincidence*, p. 512; Helm's testimony was classified until March 5th, 1974 (*Coincidence*, p. 512). See commentary on Barker and organized crime, in *Coincidence*, pp. 511-512. Barker's alleged associations with the C.I.A.-trained Cuban exiles now handling narcotics traffic for the Syndicate, including those members of Operation Forty arrested since 1970 (as well as with Carlos Prio, Frank Sturgis, and their associates), should be of interest to the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

117, p.310

Prio's political activities, in *Coincidence*, p. 512. Augustin Batista and Keyes Realty, in *Assassinations*, p. 372. Augustin Batista and Lake Pontchartrain, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 17-18. Aleman, Ansan, Teamsters, Rebozo, and Nixon, in *Assassinations*, pp. 372-373. Batista brothers and Hans Tanner, in *Assassinations*, p. 373. Tanner has been the source of information (otherwise unavailable) on Cuban-exile terrorism and mercenary plots: see Canfield, pp. 75 and 99, for example. Nixon's negotiation with Kohly at Burning Tree, in Affidavit, Exhibit 3, submitted by Robert Morrow to the House Select Committee on Assassinations, 1976 (in unpublished manuscript, Robert Morrow, "Motivation Behind the Assassination of John F. Kennedy," July, 1976). Nixon's intervention on Kohly's behalf, in letter from Richard Nixon to the Honorable Edward Weinfeld, United States District Judge, New York, dated March 9th, 1965, on "Nixon, Mudge, Rose, Guthrie & Alexander" stationary, in Robert Morrow, cited above). Rebozo and Barker-Martinez real estate deals, in *Assassinations*, p. 373.

118, pp.310-311

Suarez and Aleman, in *Assassinations*, p. 406. Aleman, Cape Florida, and Miami Stadium, in *Assassinations*, p. 406. Aleman, Rolando Cubela Secades, and Eugenio Martinez, in Scott, *Crime*, pp. 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21. Aleman, "A," and "FBI informant," see above. Aleman and Trafficante, see above. Suarez and the Alemans, see above. Barker, Republic National Bank, its officers, and director, in *Assassinations*, p. 373.

119, 120, pp.311-312

Tracing the money in Barker's possession, in Mankiewicz, pp. 141-143, and Lukas, pp. 143, 190, 229-230. The number of references to Barker in Lukas (p. 583) suggests the significance of Barker's role. Barker remains a key witness to the links between assassination attempts against Fidel Castro, the Kennedy assassination, and Watergate, if only for the number of contacts he has had with individuals involved in all three events.

121, p.312

Hunt and Prio's people on the CRF, in Canfield, p. 74. For Artime's importance, see *Coincidence*, pp. 161 and 513-519 (and citations).

122, p.313

Felipe de Diego, in *Assassinations*, p. 374; Lukas, pp. 97, 99-101, 195, and 197. Operation



Eagle and Operation Forty, in Scott, *Crime*, note 66, p. 57. For De Diego, also see Mankiewicz, pp. 102, 119, 136, and 137.

123, p.313

Virgilio Gonzales, in Lukas, pp. 195, 197-199, 203-204, 206, 212, 264-265; in Mankiewicz, pp. 118, 143.

124, p.313

Pablo Fernandez, in Lukas, pp. 167-168 and 195-196; in Mankiewicz, p. 120.

125, p.313

Reinaldo Pico, in Lukas, pp. 195-197; in Mankiewicz, pp. 119-120.

126, p.313

Eugenio Martinez, in *Coincidence*, pp. 321 and 500; Anson, p. 260; Martinez, in Lukas, see extensive citations in Index, p. 608; in Mankiewicz, pp. 118-119, 136, and 143.

127, p.314

Angel Ferrer, in Lukas, p. 195, and in Canfield, p. 81. Ferrer and Ex-Combatientes, in Canfield, p. 81. Barker and Suarez in Batista's police, in Canfield, p. 81. Christina Suarez, in Canfield, p. 81.

128, p.314

Angel Ferrer, Ramon Orozoco Crespo, and Maurice Ferre, in Canfield, p. 130. Maurice Ferre, in CD 1553, available in the National Archives. Sylvia Odio and Maurice Ferre, in CD 1553.

129, pp.314-315

Loran Eugene Hall, Sylvia Odio, and Kiki Ferrer/Farror/Masferrer, in F.B.I. File 105-15823, available in the National Archives, cited in Canfield, p. 135. Hall's first version of the Odio visit, in *Coincidence*, p. 389 and Canfield, p. 135. Hall retracted his story, increasing Sylvia Odio's credibility; see *Coincidence*, p. 389 (and citations), and *Assassinations*, pp. 103-105, 110-111, 115, and 492. Hall, Kiki Masferrer, and Roland Masferrer, in F.B.I. File 105-15823, available in the National Archives, cited in Canfield, p. 136. For Masferrer's importance to the Kennedy-Bay of Pigs story, see Wise, pp. 45-47. See also Masferrer, in Canfield, p. 136. Sylvia Odio, Masferrer family, and altercation, in CD 1553, available in the National Archives.

131, p.315

James McCord, in Oglesby, pp. 150, 169, 170, 221-226, 265-302. Alfred Baldwin, in Lukas, pp. 205-209; 193 and 219; Oglesby, pp. 272 and 288; Mankiewicz, p. 143; Thompson, pp. 208-211.

132, pp.315-316

Barker, in Thompson, pp. 42 and 216.

133, 134, p.316

Summaries of above.

135, p.317

Carlos Prio Socarras's death reported in UPI release, *Hartford Courant*, April 6th, 1977. Alleged discussion with brother; moroseness; "shots" heard, in above. Police officer Eduardo Avila is alleged to have spoken to Prio both in the garage and at the hospital before Prio died; Avila alleged that Prio confessed he had shot himself. No explanation was given for the shots heard.

136, p.317

Sturgis's role in the Watergate affair is covered extensively in Lukas, see Index, p. 620; Mankiewicz, pp. 120-121, 143, 146; and Thompson, pp. 42, 213-216, 218, and 219. See also *Coincidence* for Kennedy-Watergate connections, pp. 487, 500, 511, 513, and 517. See Canfield, *throughout*, for Kennedy-Watergate connections. Lorenz, Sturgis, Rorke plots against Castro, in AP release, *Hartford Courant*, June 13th, 1976; AP release, *Hartford Courant*, June 14th, 1976; *The Star*, September 7th, 1976; interview at the University of Hartford, November 22nd, 1976. The Lorenz-Sturgis stories must be placed in the context of revelations published by the Church Committee in 1975 and which have not been fully appreciated relative to the admitted Lorenz-Sturgis assassination attempts against Castro. Senate investigators found

...evidence that Giancana or Roselli originated the idea of depositing a poison pill in Castro's drink to give the [would-be-assassin] a chance to escape. (AR 80)

The Church Committee found "discrepancies" concerning the dates of the attempted poisonings by the Roselli-Giancana-Trafficante group; no later than early in 1961 the C.I.A.'s Technical Services Division had developed the poison to be placed in capsules and delivered to a Cuban contact (*Coincidence*, p. 160). Giancana was allegedly involved in earlier Syndicate poisonings (*Coincidence*, p. 341), and an F.B.I. memorandum dated October 18th, 1960, stated that it was Giancana's original intention to "plant" a girl with Castro to poison him. The memo, from J Edgar Hoover to the C.I.A.'s Richard Bissell, reported that

Giancana claimed that everything [had] been perfected for the killing of Castro and that the "assassin" had arranged with a girl, not further described, to drop a "pill" in some drink or food of Castro's. (AR 79)

Only one Kennedy assassination text has picked up these Church Committee revelations (*Coincidence*, pp. 160 and 341-342), but it neither combined them nor realized their bearing on the Lorenz-Sturgis admissions.

According to Giancana's biographer, Maheu, Roselli, and a "CIA agent" met at the Brown Derby in Beverly Hills in September, 1960, Brashler, p. 205); within a month, Giancana, Roselli, Maheu, and Trafficante met in Miami Beach (Brashler, p. 206). The Giancana-Maheu meetings followed (Brashler, p. 206). Robert Maheu ought to be asked by the House Select Committee on Assassinations (1) if Roselli or Giancana presented the poisoning plan and (2) if Frank Sturgis, Ilona Marita Lorenz, or Alexander Rorke was contacted in Miami or Miami Beach to effect the poisoning of Fidel Castro. Manuel Rodriguez ought to be asked if he was in contact with Maheu, Roselli, Giancana, or Trafficante, or with any member of the Sturgis-Lorenz-Rorke group for the purpose of poisoning Castro.

The House Select Committee on Assassinations ought to ask Ilona Marita Lorenz and Frank Sturgis if they conspired with the C.I.A. and/or Johnny Roselli, Sam Giancana, Santo Trafficante, and Robert Maheu in 1960 to poison Fidel Castro, especially in the light of charges that would-be assassins of Fidel Castro (associated with Santo Trafficante) were later involved in the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

137, p.317

Sturgis and Prio: see, for example, Canfield, p. 156. Sturgis and the Syndicate, in Kohn, "Bedfellows," p. 45; *Coincidence*, pp. 505-506. Confidential F.B.I. memorandum from L. Patrick Grey, intended for H. R. Haldeman, prepared on June 19th, 1972, in testimony of L. Patrick Grey, Hearings before the Senate Judiciary Committee, 1973, p. 47 (Grey's original intention discussed, pp. 45-48), cited in *Coincidence*, p. 551, and reproduced in part on p. 506.

138, pp.317-318

Nixon's goodwill tour, Jimenez, Miami Beach, and Tourine, in Messick, *Lansky*, p. 239. Tourine a member of the Vito Genevese family, in Reid, p. 316. Tourine was a continuing presence in the activities of Lansky, Giancana, and Trafficante; see, for example, Brashler, p. 246; Messick, *Business*, 218, 169, 214, 239-240, 241-242; Messick, *Lansky*, p. 196. Jimenez, in Messick, *Lansky*, p. 239. McLaney, Harry Brook, Blair House, Jimmy Hoffa, Gil Beckley, in Messick, *Lansky*, pp. 238-239. Jimenez's daughter and McLaney's son, in Messick, *Lansky*, p. 239. Ilona Marita Lorenz is the mother of a daughter allegedly fathered by Marcos Perez Jimenez, in *New York Daily News*, November 2nd, 1977. Lorenz's daughter allegedly threatened the life of Frank Sturgis in an attempt to protect her mother (*New York Daily News*, November 2nd, 1977). Harry Brook's reception, in Messick, *Lansky*, p. 239.

139, p.318

Sturgis and Prio, in "Interview," *High Times*, April, 1977, p. 22. Sturgis's Coca-Cola contact, in above, p. 22. Rodriguez and Coca-Cola, in CD 1085, available in the National Archives, cited in Canfield, p. 118.

140, p.318

Sturgis and Nunez; \$1500 per table, in "Interview," *High Times*, April, 1977, p. 24.

141, p.319

Sturgis's admission, including the name of Hymie Levine, in an interview at the University of Hartford, November 22, 1976. Ruby, Jones, Guzik, and Levine, in Chapter 13, above. See also Brashler, pp. 96-100, 109-118, 121-130, and 133-136. Sturgis's five assassination attempts, in "Interview," *High Times*, April, 1977, p. 31.

142, p.319

*Dallas Times Herald* story on Sturgis, August 23rd, 1973, cited in Penn Jones's *The Continuing Inquiry*, August 22nd, 1976; see also Mankiewicz, p. 121.

143, p.319-320

Kohn's charges against Sturgis, in "Bedfellows," May 20th, 1976, p.45. Charges similar to Kohn's were published earlier by Robert Sam Anson without Sturgis responding: (1) that Loran Eugene Hall had associations with Santo Trafficante and Frank Sturgis, and (2) that ejected casino owners and operators (including Trafficante?) were backing Sturgis's anti-Castro IAB (Anson, pp. 197 and 257 and citations).

144, p. 320

Ilona Marita Lorenz as the reputed mistress of Tourine, in Messick, *Lansky*, p. 239.

145, 146, p.320

Sturgis's admissions, in Canfield, pp. 243-244; in interview at the University of Hartford, November 22nd, 1976. Lorenz story, in *New York Daily News*, September 20th, 1977. Though Lorenz's story got Oswald back in the news, the inherent absurdity of her charges against the alleged assassin of the president helped kill the story after one day of national exposure. Undaunted, Lorenz and Sturgis were involved (one month later) in a series of charges of coercion, alleged threats, an arrest, a hearing, and a dismissal of charges, culminating in an interview with Sturgis in which Sturgis maintained he was being framed for the Kennedy assassination by "Communist" agents. See David Bird, "Watergate Burglar Arrested on Charge of Coercion," *New York Times*, November 2nd, 1977; UPI release, *Hartford Courant* ("Informer Claims Threat by Sturgis"), November 2nd, 1977; Paul Meskil, "Girl Buys Gun to Shield Mother, an Ex-CIA Spy," *New York Daily News*, November 2nd, 1977; William Federici, "Sturgis Waits Release in 10G Bail; Security's Tightened for Ex-Spy," *New York Daily News*, November 3rd, 1977; Steve Dunleavy, "Sturgis' Exclusive Story: Marita Pressured by Reds," *New York Post*, November 3rd, 1977; Laurie Johnson, "Police Investigate Arrest of Sturgis, Who Denies Threat," *New York Times*, November 4th, 1977; "Judge Dismisses Coercion Charges Against Sturgis," *New York Times*, November 5th, 1977. See also, Malcom Abrams, "I'm Being Framed as JFK's Killer," *Midnight/Globe*, November 29th, 1977. Sturgis supplied a small but provocative item which may have been the original catalyst for the series of September-November/Lorenz-Sturgis stories. According to Sturgis, investigators for the House Select Committee on Assassinations found a "notation" in the alleged diary of Lee Harvey Oswald which appears to read "Fiorini," Sturgis's name before he legally changed it. According to Sturgis, he and Gaeton Fonzi, chief Kennedy House inquirer, discussed the possibility that Oswald was "picking" his people: Walker, Nixon, and Sturgis - at best a dubious speculation. (*Midnight/Globe*, p. 7).

149, 150, p.3321

The alleged Oswald note, the Tom Johnson inquiry, the F.B.I. probe, in *The Dallas Times Herald*, August 31st, 1975.

150, pp.321-322

Schweiker Report findings on alleged Oswald note, in WR 95.

150, 151, pp.321-322

Schweiker Report, Appendix B, in SR 95-97.

152, pp.322-323

Unnamed Dallas F.B.I. source, in *The Dallas Times Herald*, August 31st, 1975. Several versions of F.B.I. source material, in UPI release, *Hartford Timew*, August 31, 1975 ("The letter didn't threaten Kennedy"); UPI release, *Hartford Times*, September 1st, 1975; UPI release, *Hartford Times*, September 7th, 1975. *Times Herald* and the Dallas F.B.I. office, in UPI release, *Hartford Times*, September 7th, 1975.

153, p.323

Unnamed source implicating F.B.I. officials, in *New York Times*, September 17th, 1975. See also AP release, *Hartford Times*, September 17th, 1975. F.B.I. officials named, including John Mohr, in *Time*, "The Oswald Cover-up," September 15th, 1975, p. 19. The attack on Mohr, whether justified or not, signaled (I believe) a significant intra-agency conflict in the American intelligence community. Subsequent stories (on Oswald's alleged note and on C.I.A. and F.B.I. internal investigations) have only strengthened that belief.

154, p.323

Don Edwards and projected Oswald note hearing, in *New York Times*, October 14th, 1975. See also UPI release based on October 16th, 1975, *Providence Journal-Bulletin* story, in *Charleston (Illinois) Times Courier*, October 17th, 1975, "FBI Ready to Confirm Holding JFK Assassination Information." As far as I know, the *Journal-Bulletin* story was not picked up in *New England*; therefore, the Illinois citation. See also UPI release, *Hartford Times*, October 21st, 1975.

154, 155 James B. Adams's testimony, in *Washington Post*, October 22, 1975, and UPI release, *Hartford Courant*, October 22nd, 1975.

156, p.324

Edwards' Committee's eight demands, summarized in news release from Citizens Commission of Inquiry, Washington, D.C., on or about October 23rd, 1975. No charges to be pressed, in John M. Crewson, "Justice Department Decides Against Prosecution in Destruction of Note From Oswald," *New York Times*, October 22nd, 1975.

157, p.324

William C. Sullivan's charges, in *Time*, October 26th, 1975; see also AP release, *Hartford Courant*, October 27th, 1975 ("Story Says Hoover Hid Threat Note"). The attack on the Hoover-Mohr Bureau people (allegedly still in control of the F.B.I.) intensified with Sullivan being named as the source of the Oswald-note stories.

158, pp.324-325

The Sullivan charges, the Mohr circle, and the destruction of Oswald's note, in "FBI: Shaken by a Cover-up that Failed," *Time*, November 3rd, 1975. Angleton's role in the Kennedy assassination investigation and his relationships to others involved in the Castro-Kennedy-Watergate-Hoffa story, in *Coincidence*, pp. 182-186, 224, and 471; *Assassinations*, pp. 475-476; Anson, p. 347; Canfield, p. 195; Halperin, pp. 142 and 225. See also Murray Schmach, "OSS Veterans Recall Cloak-and-Dagger Days," *New York Times*, April 21st, 1977.

159, p.325

Helms, Angleton, Mitchell, in "Peeking into the Mail," *Time*, November 3rd, 1975 (placed just below the Sullivan-Mohr/Oswald story), p. 10. The indicted former F.B.I. agent was the center of an internal battle being fought in the American intelligence community in 1976 and 1977; forty-five news stories bearing on the conflict attest to the importance of the confrontation. Of particular interest to this study are the people who rallied around the former F.B.I. agent, including (1) James Angleton ("FBI Defense Gets Aid from Ex-Spy," *New York News release, Hartford Courant*, May 12th, 1977); (2) Edward Bennett Williams ("....who has defended such figures as...Joseph McCarthy and mobster Frank Costello": Andrew Kreig, "Pre-Trial Date Determined....," *Hartford Courant*, May 14th, 1977; (3) James L. Buckley, and (4) Clare Boothe Luce: Andrew Kreig, "FBI Defense Fund Put at \$175,000," *Hartford Courant*, May 17th, 1977. William C. Sullivan was the anticipated key defense witness in a case which had attracted the attention of Angleton, Buckley, and Luce.

160, p.325

Hosty-Shanklin testimony, in SR 95-97; see also *Coincidence*, pp. 18-19, 255-256, and 410-411.

161, pp.325-326

Sullivan was involved in the Bureau's mail intercept when Angleton was part of the C.I.A.'s collaborative operation; for some of Sullivan's work, see Halperin, pp. 69, 87-88, and 226. See also *New York Times*, November 10th, 1977, for a partial review of Sullivan's domestic intelligence work.

162, p.326

William C. Sullivan's death, in *New York Times*, November 10th, 1977, and *Hartford Tribune*, November 14th, 1977 (neither paper mentioned Sullivan's key role in the Oswald-F.B.I. story). William C. Sullivan's significance in the intelligence community's power struggle was underscored when he was identified as a key figure in an on-going-in-house F.B.I. investigation into misuse of federal funds for personal gain. Sullivan's death in a hunting accident was noted. ("Say FBI Corruption Study Points Finger at Hoover," *New York Daily News*, December 3rd, 1977).

Less than a month after Sullivan's death, House Select Committee on Assassinations Chairperson Stokes included in the *Congressional Record* (Vol.123, No.193) of December 6th, 1977, an "Issue Definition" on the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., which noted that

...in testifying before the Senate Select Committee [on November 1st, 1975]...former assistant Director of the FBI's Domestic Intelligence Division, William C. Sullivan, acknowledged harassing Dr. King and tapping his telephone on orders from J. Edgar Hoover.

The reports of Sullivan's death made no mention of the fact that Sullivan was a potentially-important witness to the F.B.I.'s possible complicity in the King assassination. In turn, the *Congressional Record* failed to take note of the death of this important Kennedy-King witness.

163, 164, 165, pp.326-327

Marina Oswald's testimony, in 1 H 57. Ruth Paine's testimony, in 3 H 18-19.

167, pp.327-3288

For Artime's important part in the anti-Castro assassination attempts, the Bay of Pigs, the post-assassination story, and Watergate, see above. See especially, *Coincidence*, pp. 161 and 513-519 (and citations); Anson, pp. 256 and 287-288 (and citations); Canfield, pp. 74-80 and 98 (and citations); and Scott, *Crime*, pp. 10, 11, 16, 18, and 20 (and citations). See also laundered review of Artime's career, in *New York Times*, November 19th, 1977.

168, p.328

Artime's death, in George Volsky, "Manuel Artime Dies; Led Invasion of Cuba," *New York Times*, November 19th, 1977.





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Separate name index for the end notes will be supplied to researchers and investigators upon request.

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